Daily Report

Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-88-018
Thursday
28 January 1988

Daily Report
Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-88-018 CONTENTS *28 January 1988*

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

U.S. Shows 'Departure' From Summit Obligations *[Bogachev]* 1
USSR Urges UN Talks on CW Ban *[TANJUG]* 1
Chervov on INF Treaty Impact on Europe *[Sofia ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME 24 Jan]* 1
Day One of Senate INF Hearings Considered *[Gan in PRAVDA 27 Jan]* 3
Supreme Soviet Chairman on INF Ratification 4
Past, Present Nuclear Curb Efforts Reviewed *[Golts in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 22 Jan]* 4
Mood at Plants Affected by INF Curbs *[PRAVDA 27 Jan]* 6
Consultations With Austria on Disarmament Issues 8

COMMUNIST RELATIONS

Economists on CEMA, Currency Convertibility
[Cherepanov, Karavayev, Altshuler, Grinberg, Lyubskiy in IZVESTIYA 16 Jan] 9

WORLDWIDE ISSUES

Gerasimov Briefs Journalists in Moscow 28 Jan 12
On State-of-Union Address 12
On U.S. Cocom Restrictions 12
Denies Party Plenum Meeting 12
Urges Lao-Thai Rapprochement 13
Denies Afghan Rebel Contact 13
On Talks With Helsinki Group 13
Announces Aid for Ethiopia 13
Rymko Comments on Security in Northern Europe 13
Pyadyshev Remarks on Glasnost in Foreign Policy *[Sofia OTECHESTVEN FRONT 25 Jan]* 14
Helsinki Human Rights Group Meets With Committee *[IZVESTIYA 27 Jan]* 15
Meet With Psychiatrists 15
Timofeyev 'Cold-Shouldered' *[AFP]* 16
New International Cooperation Fund Viewed *[Baskakov in Sofia ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME 19 Jan]* 16
Petrovskiy Addresses UN Information Conference 17
CEMA Secretary Receives UN Official in Moscow 17
Gerasimov Introduces Film on United Nations 18
Shikalov Comments on Vienna CSCE Talks *[IZVESTIYA 27 Jan]* 18
Maksimov Comments on Differences in Cocom 19

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

United States & Canada

Gorbachev Message on U.S.-Soviet Agreement Day 21
Shevardnadze Reception Fetes 1st Agreement 21
State Department on Agreement Anniversary 21
Arbatov Reviews Progress in Bilateral Relations 22
U.S. Plans SDI-Related Test Using Delta 22
U.S. Binary CW 'Obstacle' to Disarmament 22
U.S. 'Military Spending Erodes' Security 23
U.S. Senate Committee Considers INF Treaty 24
Shevardnadze Receives U.S. Ambassador 24
Reagan Addresses Reserve Officers on Contra Aid 24
Tumanov Interviewed on Work at Radio Liberty 24
Gromyko Receives U.S. Businessman 25

CIA Estimates of Soviet Arms Spending *[Peshcherskiy in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 22 Jan]* 26
Pentagon Awards Contract to Northrop Corp. 27
U.S. Has 'Double Standards' on Human Rights *[Babenko]* 28
U.S. Shuttle Launch Rescheduled for August 28
No 'Radical Changes' in U.S. Palestinian Stand *[Vasilyev]* 28
Bilateral Agro-Industrial Cooperation Talks 29
Cooperation Protocol Signed 29
Emigre Discusses Problems of Life in U.S. 29

China

U.S. Secret List Labels China 'Hostile State' *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 28 Jan]* 30
Ivavov Hails Development of Mutual Cooperation 30
Soviet-Chinese Trade Develops Smoothly 30
Popov Cited; Praises Deng Xiaoping's Concept 31
Vietnam's Troop Withdrawal From Cambodia Viewed *[Petrov]* 31

Northeast Asia

DPRK Responds, Retaliates to U.S. Sanctions *[IZVESTIYA 27 Jan]* 32
U.S. Troop Withdrawal From Korea Rumored 32
Ryzhkov Greets Joint Economic Meeting in Japan 33
Japan's Claim on Kuriles 'Stumbling Block' *[Andrianov]* 34

Southeast Asia & Pacific

PRK Foreign Minister Hun Sen Departs Moscow 35
PRK Leaders Send Thanks for Jubilee Greetings *[PRAVDA 24 Jan]* 35
SRV TV Problems, Cooperation Plans Outlined *[Krichevskiy]* 35

Near East & South Asia

Envoy to Tehran on Iran Ties, Afghanistan, Gulf *[Tehran]* 36
IRNA Report 36
Syria, CSSR Call for End to Gulf War 37
PFLP's Habash Interviewed on Palestinian Unrest *[PRAVDA 27 Jan]* 37

East Europe

GDR's Fischer Makes Official Visit 38
Shevardnaze Hosts Dinner *[PRAVDA 27 Jan]* 38
Fischer Dinner Speech *[PRAVDA 27 Jan]* 40
CPCZ's Horeni's Visit Marks Amity Anniversary 41
Meets With Medvedev *[PRAVDA 27 Jan]* 41
Horeni Interview 42
Lukyanov, MSZMP's Fejti Hold 'Comradely' Talks *[PRAVDA 27 Jan]* 42
Loginov, SFRY's Djukic Discuss Cooperation *[IZVESTIYA 24 Jan]* 42
Polish Paper on Western Media's 'Falsification' 42
PZPR-USSR Amity Society Design Program *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 27 Jan]* 43
PZPR Visitors Study Party Work at Enterprises *[PRAVDA 24 Jan]* 43

West Europe

Europarliament Communists Meet Gromyko, Demichev 43
Members Listed *[PRAVDA 27 Jan]* 43
Meet With Dobrynin *[PRAVDA 27 Jan]* 45
Meet With Petrovskiy 45
Tolstykh Receives Swedish Environmental Minister *[PRAVDA 26 Jan]* 46
Dahl Says Visit 'Useful' 46
Stockholm Seminar Held on Peace, Disarmament 46
Britain Announces Conventional Weapons Buildup 47

Motor Traffic Agreement Signed With Britain *[IZVESTIYA 24 Jan]* 47

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political & Social

Zaykov Addresses Machine Builders' Meeting *[PRAVDA 19 Jan]* 48
Information Reports on Ukrainian Party Plenum *[Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY]* 48
First Day *[23 Jan]* 48
Final Day *[24 Jan]* 49
Latvian Party Plenum Debate Reported *[PRAVDA 21 Jan]* 49
Ugarov Urges Adherence to Socialist Realism *[PRAVDA 22 Jan]* 51
Mental Patients' Rights, Interests Guaranteed 53
Criminal, Civil Codes Under Consideration 53
Legal Experts Interviewed on Reform *[Hamburg DER SPIEGEL 25 Jan]* 53
Battle Against Uzbek 'Mafia' Described *[PRAVDA 23 Jan]* 57
Armenian Church Leader Vazgen Profiled *[MOSCOW NEWS No 4]* 60
Historian Warns Against 'Nationalist Dreams' *[Kiev RADKYANSKA UKRAINA 22 Jan]* 61
New Approach to History, Its Study Urged *[PRAVDA 28 Jan]* 62
Lenin's Ideas on Press Freedom Described *[Chikin in Sofia ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME 21 Jan]* 64

Economic

Goskomstat Report on 1987 Plan Fulfillment *[PRAVDA 24 Jan]* 65

Agricultural

Sizenko Describes 1988 Agricultural Plans 85
Grain Ministry Notes 'Shortcomings' 85
No 'Breakthrough' in Non-Chernozem Agro-Industry *[IZVESTIYA 21 Jan]* 86
Media Report 22-27 Jan Agricultural Developments 87

Scientific

Activities of 'Mir' Cosmonauts Described 87
27 Jan Tasks 87
28 Jan Tasks 87
Phobos Project Council Reviews Tasks, Problems 88
Scientist on Project 88
Cosmonaut on Cooperation With U.S. Committee 89
All Nuclear Plants Inspected for Safety 89

Military

Correspondent Describes Gulf 'Combat Duty' 89

U.S. Shows 'Departure' From Summit Obligations

LD271853 Moscow TASS in English 1830 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 27 TASS—By TASS Military Writer Vladimir Bogachev.

There are grounds to think that encouraging advance in the drafting of a treaty on the reduction of strategic offensive arms which started after the Washington summit does not continue so far. Moreover, the U.S. side now tries to revise a number of important provisions agreed upon at the summit meeting and recorded in the Soviet-U.S. joint summit statement.

The U.S. delegation in Geneva now shows, specifically, a departure from the obligation of the sides confirmed in the joint statement, to observe the ABM Treaty, as signed in 1972, from the understanding registered in that document on an organic link between the drafting of a treaty on strategic offensive arms and non-withdrawal from the ABM Treaty for an agreed upon period. The U.S. side submitted at the talks in Geneva a draft treaty on strategic defence which actually reduces to nought the fundamental provisions of the ABM Treaty, specifically as regards testing and deployment of anti-missile armaments.

The U.S. delegation also refuses to comply with the provision of the joint summit statement on the quest for mutually-acceptable solutions to the question of limiting the deployment of long-range sea-launched cruise missiles (SLCMS). Washington declared that it is not prepared to form a working group on SLCMS. Members of the U.S. delegation do not display any initiative in discussing concrete Soviet proposals on SLCMS and are clearly in no hurry to comply with the appropriate provisions of the joint summit statement.

Immediately after the Washington summit, the U.S. side started complicating the process of talks in Geneva by making proposals on additional restrictions on land-based missiles which have not been envisaged in the joint statement. One gets the impression that Washington is interested not in the strategic arms reduction but in the development of the race in sea-launched offensive arms, that is on channels advantageous only for the USA.

Quite recently Washington strategists have been trying to prove the stabilising nature of mobile land-based intercontinental ballistic missiles. And now the USA going beyond the provisions of the joint summit statement advances the proposals for their priority elimination, though [as received] the proposals that are not quite clear and precise.

After the summit meeting high representatives of the U.S. Administration, among them chief U.S. negotiator in Geneva Max Kampelman, issued statements that they in general are not much interested in reaching agreement in strategic offensive arms, particularly if the reductions are made on the basis of the proposals agreed upon in Washington. And this gives rise to concern.

The signing of the INF Treaty opened promising prospects for reaching progress in all other areas of arms control. It is important not to let slip the opportunities opened. It is necessary to use that impetus for maintaining the pace of constructive talks and make the process of disarmament continuous and irreversible.

The joint Soviet-U.S. summit statement is based on these provisions. It is important that practical foreign policy steps of the USA be implemented in accordance with the letter and the spirit of the decisions made during the latest summit.

USSR Urges UN Talks on CW Ban

LD281108 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0847 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Text] Geneva, Jan 28 (TANJUG)—Before the next session of the 40-nation Geneva disarmament conference, which opens on February 2, the Soviet Union pleads for a convention on a total ban on chemical weapons to get priority. It believes that all the important political questions have been discussed and agreed on and that there are no major disagreements. The Soviet Union expects all the remaining differences to be solved until a special session of the General Assembly next May and a draft convention to be completed this year, member of the Soviet delegation Nikita Smidovich told a news conference in the Palace of the Nations yesterday.

In December 1987 the Soviet Union announced that it had 50,000 tons of toxic substances which could be used in military purposes. It has stopped with further production and started to build a plant for their destruction. It is also ready to give other information in order to create mutual confidence. Besides the Soviet Union, no other Warsaw treaty country has chemical weapons. The Soviet Union called on the United States to declare the size of its stockpile. Some other NATO countries were also asked to say whether they have this kind of armament, Smidovich said.

So far only the Soviet Union and the United States have discussed the possibility of exchanging information on chemical weapons since only these two countries have announced that they have such weapons.

Chervov on INF Treaty Impact on Europe

AU261143 Sofia ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME in Bulgarian 24 Jan 88 pp 3,4

[Interview with Colonel General Nikolay Chervov, "chief of directorate of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces," by Colonel Vasiliy Morozov, "NOVOSTI observer on military issues," entitled "Victory of Prudence"; date and place not given]

[Text] Colonel Vasiliy Morozov, NOVOSTI observer on military issues, met Colonel General Nikolay Chervov, chief of directorate of the General Staff of the USSR

Armed Forces and one of the USSR experts at the Washington meeting, and asked him to answer questions related to nuclear disarmament.

[Morozov] Many people in East and West are still discussing the issue of who "gained" more from the treaty on eliminating U.S. and USSR intermediate- and shorter-range missiles. Some people think that in signing the treaty the USSR made rather big concessions, while others—mostly opponents of the new USSR-U.S. agreement—maintain precisely the opposite. What can you say in this context?

[Chervov] The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee answered this question: "I think that neither the one nor the other is correct. Each side yielded precisely as much as was necessary in order to balance their interests in the given specific area."

At the 11 December 1987 Berlin meeting of the leaders of the Warsaw Pact member states, it was stressed that the USSR-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles corresponds to the interests of all and enhances security in Europe, Asia, and beyond.

Yes, indeed: The USSR adopted an asymmetrical decision and eliminated twice as many missiles (1,752 vs. 859) and many more warheads. However, the whole thing does not come down to numbers (although they also have great importance), or to the question of who "gained" and who "lost."

One must take into consideration first of all the political, military, moral, psychological, and other interests of the sides.

Despite the fact that we are eliminating more missiles, the United States is also eliminating many of its missiles. The "Pershing-2" intermediate-range missiles, which are deployed in Europe, can strike targets on USSR territory after a flight of 8-10 minutes. The ground-launched cruise missiles (GLCM) are also dangerous because they fly at a high altitude and are very precise. Let us recall that the capacity of their warheads—from 80 to 100 kilotons—is 8 to 15 times greater than the capacity of the nuclear bomb dropped over Hiroshima. The "Pershing" and GLCM missiles are instruments of permanent blackmail and threat against us. Now the Warsaw Pact states will be released from this absolutely realistic threat. The United States and its allies also obtained a great benefit for themselves: They removed from Europe the threat of the SS-20 missiles, and simultaneously, they are eliminating fewer missiles than we are.

The USSR and United States are states which cannot be forced to follow a disadvantageous policy or make unilateral concessions. Fruitful negotiations are possible only on a mutual basis, in other words, only when the concessions are mutually beneficial. The Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles is precisely such a document. It is a treaty of mutual and constructive steps, and a result of the joint efforts of our allies and all nations.

More specifically, the importance of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles is in itself the first step toward eliminating forward-based nuclear weapons in Europe.

[Morozov] How will the elimination of the nuclear warheads take place according to the treaty on eliminating the two classes of missiles?

[Chervov] According to the treaty, the nuclear devices may be stripped from the missile before it is brought to the place where it is to be destroyed. The front section, including the warheads without the nuclear devices, will be crushed or destroyed together with the missile by means of an explosion. The nuclear devices stripped from the front sections of the missiles, together with the fissile materials, will be sent to the appropriate enterprise for use. If the sides so decide, these materials may be used as fuel in nuclear power plants.

[Morozov] What nuclear weapons will the sides have after the elimination of the two classes of missiles and what situation will emerge in Europe?

[Chervov] The Armed Forces of the United States and the USSR in Europe will have tactical nuclear weapons (aircraft, missiles, nuclear artillery, and so forth). These are dual-purpose means. They can use both conventional and nuclear ammunition.

According to the program on reducing armed forces and nuclear and conventional weapons in Europe (from the Atlantic to the Urals), which was worked out in Budapest, the allied socialist countries propose to reduce dual-purpose means along with conventional weapons. This issue is being discussed in Vienna, where the mandate for future negotiations is being worked out. We have every reason to believe that the mandate will allow the negotiations to begin in the summer of 1988. England and France will evidently join the process of reducing nuclear weapons after the strategic defensive weapons of the USSR and United States are reduced by half.

[Morozov] In NATO one can still hear appeals for "compensation" after the elimination of the intermediate- and shorter-range missiles.

[Chervov] Indeed, in response to the decision to eliminate two classes of missiles, NATO is developing plans to "rearm" Europe. It envisages the additional deployment of strategic and tactical U.S. aircraft in Western Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East, the targeting of a part of the U.S. sea-based missiles on objectives which were formerly included in the "Pershing-2" targets, the deployment of hundreds of cruise missiles on vessels, the modernization and increase of the nuclear weapons of

England and France, the development of fundamentally new kinds of conventional weapons, and so forth. These actions contradict the spirit of the document which was signed.

We would like to hope that NATO's plans for "compensation" will not be implemented and that after the ratification in the USSR and the United States the USSR-U.S. treaty will turn into specific deeds.

Day One of Senate INF Hearings Considered

PM271603 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jan 88 Second Edition pp 1,5

[Own correspondent V. Gan dispatch under the rubric "Abroad": "On the Scales of History"]

[Excerpt] Washington—[Passage omitted] Today the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles is the main subject in Washington, coming up time and again in speeches given from high American rostrums. It was discussed by the President in his message accompanying the treaty. It was emphasized by Reagan in his traditional "State of the Union" address to Congress. "Our recently signed Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles is historic because it reduces nuclear arms and establishes the strictest monitoring procedures in the history of arms control.... In addition to this treaty, we are within striking distance of achieving an even more vital agreement which will halve long-range missiles," he pointed out, to applause from legislators at the joint session....

But all this happened in the evening. There had been a crowd, with people fighting for places, since morning in the new, spacious hall of the Senate Hart Building. Journalists, it is true, had been accorded a special privilege—91 seats had been "reserved" for them, objections by the rest of the public being cast aside. Leading members of the State Department entered the hall at exactly 10 o'clock led by G. Shultz, with whose declaration the Senate Foreign Relations Committee sessions began. At the same time, in a neighboring Senate building, the Armed Services Committee began discussion of the treaty and was addressed by U.S. Secretary of Defense F. Carlucci and Admiral W. Crowe, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The senators' introductory statements essentially contained no "surprises." Apart from the fact that R. Dole, Republican leader in the Senate and contender for the U.S. Presidency, who at one time could give no definite opinion on the treaty, stated his position perfectly plainly: "I was fully determined to come to an independent decision on the treaty's value. I can now say with confidence that it is a good treaty." Senators C. Pell, A. Cranston, R. Lugar, S. Nunn, and a number of others who have repeatedly voiced their support for the agreement reaffirmed the strength of their opinions on this occasion also. As Cranston said, "this treaty is a vitally important first step in the direction of establishing a more stable relationship with the Soviet people and their leaders. It is a decisive beginning and a ray of hope in the uneasy relationship between the great powers."

Administration representatives were also unanimous in their opinions in their lengthy statements (the text of Shultz' speech, for example, ran to 48 pages) and later in their answers to senators' questions. The treaty, Secretary of State Shultz said, "strengthens international stability. It may open a new chapter in arms control—the beginning of arms reductions." Pentagon leader Carlucci noted in particular that this Soviet-American accord "creates important precedents for agreements in the arms sphere as a whole." The statement by Admiral Crowe carried weight as he pointed out that "the Joint Chiefs of Staff have reached the unanimous conclusion that this treaty is reasonable and adequately verifiable from a military standpoint. They believe that this agreement is also in the very best interests of the United States and decisively recommend its ratification."

In short, the basic statements by administration representatives were positive. But there was also another striking feature. Even on the first day of the hearings, the White House's tactics were clear and hardly to its credit. In its attempt to "sell the treaty to the Senate," to use an American expression, official Washington decided to present the matter as if its "firmness" and the "strength" it has built up during the years of its militarist spree were the only factors that made it possible to reach an accord with the Soviet Union. As if it were not the United States but the Soviet Union which had to be literally "dragged" to the negotiating table.

The logic, facts, and, finally, the actual history of the talks, at which the Soviet side displayed new thinking and political boldness in the interests of mutually acceptable compromise—they are now trying to draw a veil of silence over all this. Moreover, this is often done without any objective need but simply for the sake of the narrowly selfish political aim of finding a justification for the many years of obstructions placed in the way of any Soviet initiatives and for ignoring American and international public opinion, which demanded that the White House take real steps in response to Moscow rather than make demagogic excuses or whip up more and more new spirals of the arms race.

But unfortunately this was not the only thing to make an unpleasant impression. All the speakers seemed to consider it their duty to pay tribute to the wrongful accusation which has long been made against the Soviet Union without any foundation whatsoever—that it is allegedly "in violation of existing treaties" and tries to be devious time and again. "Soviet observance of treaties" has always been a "problem" in the arms control sphere, Shultz, Carlucci, and Crowe said with one accord.

Should one therefore feel any surprise that, having become prey to its own myths, the administration is involuntarily playing into the hands of those who do not want to hear of any measures that will put the brake on the insane nuclear arms race or of any agreement with the Soviet Union at all? Actually, the current hearings provide a graphic example of how Washington's anti-Soviet "arguments" have boomeranged against it. Using the White House's own "argment," Helms, leader of the far-right legislators, openly attacked Secretary of State Shultz. "The treaty is an invitation to deception. I am sure that the Soviets have already planned how to deceive us. They are deceiving us even now," he seethed.

Nevertheless, the first day of the discussion of the treaty showed that it enjoys broad support in the Senate on the whole. It is expected that the legislators will give their "advice and consent" to its ratification by the beginning of spring. However, a hard struggle lies ahead. Helms and people like him on Capitol Hill and throughout the country have launched a veritable storm of activity to wreck or at least change and erode the treaty beyond recognition, which would mean starting the talks all over again.

In other words, the watershed is quite clear and the final outcome largely depends on the administration, its consistency, and political responsibility, which are now being weighed on the scales of history.

Supreme Soviet Chairman on INF Ratification

LD271557 Moscow TASS in English 1530 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 27 TASS—By a TASS diplomatic correspondent:

"We Soviet people, naturally, want to see the Soviet-American Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles ratified both in the Soviet Union and in the United States.

We want it to become a law and, finally, launch the process of practical disarmament in the field of nuclear missiles," Lev Tolkunov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet (parliament) and chairman of the USSR parliamentary group, told a TASS diplomatic correspondent today.

"This is what we want to achieve. But attaining the lofty goal requires vigorous efforts by parliamentarians of both countries—optimism alone is not enough for the ratification of the historic document."

"Hearings at U.S. Senate committees have already shown that there are on Capitol Hill supporters of the treaty, those who have not as yet defined their attitude to the document and those who do not conceal their opposition, reflecting the attempt of the American right-wingers to torpedo the first agreement in the field of real disarmament," Tolkunov said.

"Common sense and opinion of the U.S. progressive public reflecting the objective interests of the American people, one might hope, will manifest themselves, and the American legislators will ultimately make the right choice and ratify the treaty."

"The foreign affairs commissions of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities at the USSR Supreme Soviet have also started debates on treaty.

This procedure is followed when documents of particular importance are to be submitted for consideration to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.

Soviet parliamentarians proceed from the premise that the real destruction of two classes of Soviet and American nuclear missiles, given strict verification measures, meets the interests of Soviet people and peoples all over the world, the interests of strengthening security worldwide," Tolkunov said.

"Surely, Soviet parliamentarians cannot but be worried by the activity of opponents of the treaty in the United States who already now often seek to distort its essence, present it as a lopsided document beneficial only to the Soviet side and put forward once again the thesis of inadequate control."

"The discussion of the Soviet-American treaty in the USSR Supreme Soviet is an act of immense responsibility: The Soviet parliamentarians fully realize that this document, once ratified, will become a first step towards turning the Soviet initiative on creating a nuclear-free world by the beginning of the third millennium, advanced by Mikhail Gorbachev on January 15, 1986, from a bold proposal into a reality," Tolkunov pointed out.

Past, Present Nuclear Curb Efforts Reviewed

PM271225 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Jan 88 Second Edition p 3

[International Observer Aleksandr Golts reply to reader's letter: "A Difficult Path but the Only One"]

[Text] Here is what Major I. Valmus of the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany has written to the editorial office:

"Like all Soviet people, I am pleased by our country's persistent efforts to achieve nuclear disarmament. I am pleased that this policy is finding approval throughout the world. True, there are some doubts. After all, literally since the atom bomb appeared we have been struggling to ban it and throughout those 40 years we seemed to have the support of ordinary people in all lands. Yet the nuclear arsenals continued to grow. Will our present efforts produce real results?"

The reader is now answered by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Observer Aleksandr Golts.

To be honest, Ivan Stanislavovich, until comparatively recently I would have preferred not to answer your question in a newspaper. This is because for a long time matters were roughly as you describe them. Yes, the USSR, our friends and allies, and many people in all countries have campaigned for decades for the elimination of nuclear death. And at the same time nuclear arsenals, including our own, continued to grow year by year. But even then we were not dissembling. We were sincere when we demanded disarmament in this sphere. However, disarmament is not a one-way street.

Let us recall how it all began. More than 40 years ago, in January 1946, the UN General Assembly adopted a special resolution establishing the UN Atomic Energy Commission. As one of its main tasks the commission was mandated to prepare proposals on the "exclusion of atomic weapons from national armaments."

However, some people's sense of responsibility immediately clashed with the irresponsibility of others. The United States blocked the work of the UN commission by putting forward the lamentable "Baruch plan." The core of this plan was to place under U.S. control both the raw materials for the atomic industry and all the research in this sphere by other countries without banning the production of atomic bombs by the United States itself. The aim of the "Baruch plan" was to perpetuate the U.S. atomic monopoly.

It was also clear how Washington intended to use that monopoly. The Pentagon's generals had already plotted their nuclear strikes on the map of our country and had already calculated how many bombs it would take to destroy Moscow and how many to destroy Leningrad.

The USSR could not ignore that threat. It was forced to create its own atomic weapon. But although we had broken the U.S. monopoly, we did not change our attitude toward that weapon. During the years that followed, we persistently proposed to the United States that it be abandoned. However, the U.S. politicians were busy with thoughts of the very opposite kind: how to achieve the kind of superiority over the USSR which would guarantee impunity for the aggressor. We, too, Comrade Valmus, were compelled to compete in the arms race to achieve military strategic parity.

As for support for our initiatives, that was a complex matter. I think that the very words "ordinary people from various countries" have become somewhat debased through frequent use and have become an obstacle to the understanding of the real state of affairs. Yes, millions of people approved and still do approve of our policy and support our ideas on disarmament. But there were and still are millions of others, too. Those people who, under the influence of subtle propaganda, believed that the threat stems from the USSR and that nuclear weapons are the inevitable evil of the modern world, people who, finally, prefer not to think about the future but live only for the present. Those people whom Western political scientists like to call the "silent majority." The militarists need their passivity and their specially inculcated indifference.

By the mid-eighties it was obvious that even military strategic parity, achieved with such difficulty, no longer signified security. The mountains of nuclear weapons are dangerous in themselves. Reality demanded new approaches and a new political thinking. And that thinking was born. "The basic principle of the new political thinking is simple: Nuclear war cannot be a means of achieving political, economic, ideological, or any other goals," M.S. Gorbachev writes in his book "Restructuring and the New Thinking for Our Country and the Whole World."

And that, Comrade Valmus, is a truly revolutionary conclusion. It marks a fundamental break with the traditional notions of war and peace. It is based on the premise that not only will there be neither victors nor vanquished in nuclear war, but that world civilization will inevitably perish.

However, to understand this reality is still not enough. What is needed are actions which would arouse the public consciousness and force everyone to consider the difficult questions of the nuclear age. The Soviet moratorium on nuclear explosions was just such an action. It was a unilateral act dictated by goodwill. Unfortunately the moratorium was not supported by Washington. But neither was it in vain. It enabled ordinary people and governments alike to see the full gravity of the situation.

I would say that the moratorium cleared the way for an understanding of the historic program for the elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000 which was put forward 2 years ago. There was nothing utopian about this plan, even though to some people it seemed that way. By its detailed examination of each position and its concrete nature it was fully targeted on end results, to use the jargon of modern production. Even today it can be used to gauge the stages of the path that has been traveled.

This happened at a recent press conference in Moscow. We could really see for ourselves how the cause of nuclear disarmament is progressing. In some directions it is even ahead of schedule. I recall that in the first stage, lasting 5-8 years, it was proposed that an agreement on the elimination of medium-range missiles would be signed and implemented. You are aware, of course, that such an agreement was achieved at the recent Soviet-U.S. summit. But events changed and the elimination of shorter-range missiles, which was planned for later, is already beginning during the first stage.

The Soviet-U.S. summit made the 50% reduction of strategic offensive armaments realistically attainable. There is also progress, albeit less noticeable, in the sphere of ending nuclear tests. Recently a group of U.S.

experts visited the Soviet test range at Semipalatinsk, and our specialists will soon be traveling to Nevada. A joint experiment is being prepared which will make it possible to agree on reliable test verification measures. And that is necessary in order to ratify the 1974 and 1976 treaties.

There you are, Comrade Valmus, the modest yet real steps back from the nuclear brink. It is too soon to rejoice, of course, and the path ahead will be difficult. Furthermore, the militarist circles are going all out to place obstacles in the way. There is the notorious SDI, which proposes the creation of a third generation of nuclear weapons and their deployment in space, and there are also those new plans like the strategy of discriminate deterrence, which is now being put forward by Western military circles. Nor can one fail to be alarmed by the recently publicized information that in the past 25 years the United States has conducted 117 secret nuclear tests at the Nevada test range.

Where is the guarantee that mankind will be able to surmount those obstacles? In the growing ranks of the supporters of peace. And that fact is due by no means least to the qualitatively different dialogue which the Soviet leadership is conducting with everyone who supports the idea of freeing mankind from the threat of nuclear death. The purpose of this dialogue is not to score propaganda points but to enshrine the very fact of the approval of our initiatives. This is a question of the mutual exchange of ideas and of the extensive work which is yielding practical results.

Indeed, mankind has not yet succeeded in resolving the tasks which the UN Atomic Energy Commission was set. But the revival of public thinking and the peoples' united desire for a secure future inspire the hope that the struggle for nuclear disarmament will be successful.

Mood at Plants Affected by INF Curbs

PM281053 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jan 88 Second Edition p 3

[Special correspondent A. Gorokhov "Reportage From Plants Named in the Treaty on Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles": "People. Missiles. Verification"]

[Text] "I am sorry to think that the time I spent in Votkinsk passed so quickly..." Petr Ilich Tchaikovskiy remarked at a mature age. He was 9 years old when in 1849 his father, Ilya Petrovich, a good-natured, sociable man, chief of the Kama-Votka Mining Okrug and consequently also leader of the Votkinsk State Plant, and a lieutenant colonel of the corps of mining engineers, retired and moved to Petersburg with his family.

More than 2,000 people were employed at the plant then. The plant settlement with 10,000 residents was situated on the banks of a large pond or, more accurately, beside a dam on the Votka and Sharkan Rivers, not far from the Kama.

That pond still exists. Its icebound expanse is shared between the plant Palace of Culture and the P.I. Tchaikovskiy House-Museum, where restoration work is now under way—the estate is being reconstructed in its entirety.

The Votkinsk machine-building plant is, so to speak, the nucleus of the city whose breadwinner it is. Those who work in its shops, who have retired from work, and who will come to the machine tools in the future live in the city. In short, the plant is everything to the people of Votkinsk, it is their life.

Nowadays, the enterprise in the Udmurt Autonomous Republic finds itself on the crest of world politics in connection with the production there of the OTR-22 and OTR-23 operational-tactical missiles (their production is complete) and the RSD-10 intermediate-range missiles (36 missiles and an equal number of launch containers are at various stages of production there). One month after the exchange of ratification documents, that is, the validation of the Treaty on Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, American inspectors will come to Votkinsk to monitor [kontrolirovat] for 13 years, in particular, the access point to the RSD-10's final assembly plant. On a permanent basis, as it were.

...We are standing right by the "access point." What is it? It is an ordinary gateway, through which a railroad branch line and a road pass. It is through this gateway and through it alone that any means of transport carrying an intermediate-range missile or the longest stage of such a missile would be able to leave...

In the other hemisphere, in the American state of Utah, in the city of Magna, there is, I believe, a similar gateway at the No 1 Hercules Plant, where Pershing II missiles used to be produced. Soviet inspectors will go there on a similar mission for those same 13 years.

Continuing the musical analogies, it could be said that the score of the historic treaty has accommodated concepts and interests common to all mankind and combined what seemed to be uncombinable. The staves of this document with its memorandum of understanding on establishing initial data and with its protocols on procedures and inspections are now being looked at carefully by the "musicians"—diplomats, military men, workers... In order to play before an earthly audience a kind of first missile symphony or, in other words, with a minimum of pencil marks to begin realizing the treaty which, it remains to be hoped, will be ratified on both sides of the planet. Of course, any score—even a remarkable one—is, all the same, in the hands of the performer, who can either get the maximum out of the composer's design or simply ruin a most magnificent work. And again: The performer needs time to interpret this score down to the smallest details, without turning a moment of urgency into a moment of haste.

In addition to Votkinsk, three other of our enterprises figure in the treaty: Volgograd's "Barrikady" plant, which used to produce launchers for RSD-10 and OTR-22 missiles, Petropavlovsk's V.I. Lenin heavy machine-building plant (OTR-23 launchers), and the "Mashinostroitelnyy zavod imeni M.I. Kalinin" Production Association's experimental plant in Sverdlovsk (launchers for the RK-55 cruise missiles, tested but not deployed).

Each collective has a great history. The Votkinsk "ironworks" is some 230 years old. The others are a bit younger. During the war years they produced defense output, chiefly for the artillery. On what are they engaged now, apart from producing national economic and purely consumer goods and what is stipulated in international documents? I do not know that, and I am not meant to know. In this connection I will note that the inspectors too are banned from divulging the information which they will inevitably gain at these plants, and this commitment will remain in force even after the inspection activity has ended.

Let us debate the matter. Any country has a right to be concerned for its security, and not only be concerned but also ensure it in practice. And all talk claiming that we have cities and entire regions that are closed to foreigners stems either from ignorance of the real situation or from the devil. I believe that "closed zones" will remain even in a world completely purged of all weapons: Economic competition has its secrets too.

This is what struck me during numerous conversations with plant workers: These people, who have worked for many years within the rigid framework of essential restrictions, are surprised, to say the least, at the expected arrival of foreigners in their top-secret shops, to which by no means all of "their own" people are even admitted. I sometimes even sensed a certain dismay: Have you ever heard of such a thing! But something else was also noticeable—a businesslike attitude toward the treaty and its realization. Indeed, as in an orchestra, where there are no "superfluous" instruments. Perhaps I am anticipating events just a little, but I can responsibly declare that the mechanism for verifying the treaty's observance has already been started up. That is the chief thing.

How to accommodate the inspectors, where to feed them, how to provide them with reliable communications, what to offer them, if the need arises, in terms of recreation... Dozens of questions. Quite honestly, this was the first time I had encountered treaty matters, and so I had no idea how much effort it takes to "rehearse" the score of this missile symphony without wrong notes. However, such "shakedowns" are probably useful. Take this aspect. A plant is a plant, and, if you want to, you can find something negative on any flagship. And it seemed to me that the people at all these plants were looking with different eyes, as it were, at what they had probably reconciled themselves to or had not noticed. My interlocutors admitted that they have no intention of pretending that everything is perfect, although it would not hurt to instill order in some places. Such is the mood there.

A. Tugbayev, a shop chief in Votkinsk, told me:

"I remember very well the very difficult war years, I remember them perfectly. And I do not want everything to be repeated.... Yes, defense output was demanded of us. And we made it. If something else is required of us, we will make that too."

A. Shadrin, an operator of program-controlled machine tools, added:

"The chief thing in our relations is trust and reciprocity in disarmament and verification...."

A. Bogolyubskaya, director of the P.I. Tchaikovskiy House-Museum, made her own assessment of the signing of the Soviet-U.S. treaty:

"That event gladdened us greatly. For great opportunities are emerging for us to develop museum work, for aesthetic education, to invite well-known musicians to the city...."

Such are the assessments. A "Barrikady" engineer, who has devoted almost 30 years to the plant, voiced this thought: It is undoubtedly a pity to destroy these machines, this labor. Of course, Europe will be purged, which is good. Can there really be a different opinion? So many weapons have been made in the world that it is becoming terrible. But, on the other hand, if we did not have these missiles, the West would not be talking with us on equal terms. The chief thing is that I am sure that we have sufficient strength left to make anyone see reason....

I listened to the engineer, and this is what I thought. We are now collecting, little by little, relics of Soviet engineering and hunting for old and not very old airplanes, tanks, and motor vehicles. Since we have not preserved many outstanding creations of people's minds and hands, we have even lost some blueprints. In this case the protocol on procedures governing the elimination of the missile systems that fall within the scope of the treaty also takes this aspect of the matter into account. It will be possible to preserve several examples of the complexes that have been reduced "by including them in a stationary exhibition," that is, to keep them for museums of aviation, missile, and space technology.

On board the TU-134 aircraft in which a group of specialists was returning to Moscow after touring the plants I chatted with Ambassador V. Karpov, member of the USSR Foreign Ministry Collegium and one of those who drew up the text of the Treaty on Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles.

"The visits to the enterprises and the conversations with their leaders," Viktor Pavlovich said, "convinced me that people at the plants understand perfectly the treaty's contents and their own tasks and that they understand and are taking all necessary measures to fulfill the Soviet Union's commitments as far as the plants are directly concerned. All this is new to them, and they are displaying understandable concern on various aspects. The enterprises will be given the necessary assistance in this sphere. Before the treaty comes into force we plan to examine in detail once again how the inspectors' activities will be conducted. We have already had an exchange of opinions with the U.S. side about this, and it will be continued. Evidently, there will be trips to both Votkinsk and Magna. The verification mechanism will go into top gear after ratification. We are interested in seeing that it starts working at maximum efficiency right away. Yes, we are destroying expensive hardware, but we are doing so for the bright goal of creating a nuclear-free world—the goal proclaimed 15 January 1986. In addition, the elimination of these production facilities opens up the way to the redistribution and more efficient use of our economic resources. It is not a question of reduction percentages. The chief thing is that we are taking the first real step on the difficult road of nuclear disarmament...."

P.I. Tchaikovskiy, the Votkinsk people's great fellow countryman, once told his pupil: "I would not want my pen to produce symphonic works which express nothing and consist of an empty play of chords...." This, as you understand, was said of music. But it seems to me that it applies to both missiles and treaties.

Consultations With Austria on Disarmament Issues
LD271138 Moscow TASS in English 1130 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Vienna January 27 TASS—Soviet-Austrian consultations on disarmament issues, on the problem of banning chemical weapons, in particular, have been held here.

The consultations were conducted by Ambassador Yuriy Nazarkin, the leader of the Soviet delegation at the Geneva conference on disarmament, and Mr Gleisner, head of the department on Arms Control, Arms Limitation and Disarmament of the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Economists on CEMA, Currency Convertibility

PM270925 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Jan 88 Morning Edition p 6

["IZVESTIYA Roundtable" moderated by A. Cherepanov with contributions from USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of the Economics of the World Socialist System staffers V. Karavayev, A. Altshuler, R. Grinberg, and M. Lyubskiy: "CEMA En Route to a Unified Market"; first two paragraphs are IZVESTIYA introduction]

[Text] Currency and financial aspects of foreign economic ties and their role in the system of the international division of labor, including integrated cooperation among CEMA countries, were the topic examined at an IZVESTIYA roundtable discussion. Transformations in keeping with the changes taking place in the socialist countries' economies and foreign economic activity have now been initiated in this sphere.

The following staffers of the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of the Economics of the World Socialist System share their ideas with our newspaper readers: Doctor of Economic Sciences Valeriy Karavayev, Doctor of Juridical Sciences Arkadiy Altshuler, Candidate of Economic Sciences Ruslan Grinberg, and Candidate of Economic Sciences Mikhail Lyubskiy.

[Cherepanov] Let us kick off our talk with the decisions of the last sitting of the 43d CEMA session.

V. Karavayev: Cost instruments (prices, exchange rates, credit, interest rates, and so forth) still play a passive role in our integrated cooperation. But at the new stage of cooperation their importance will fundamentally change.

We already have the relevant decisions and documents at our disposal. But all this is being implemented extremely slowly. It was no surprise that the sitting gave pride of place to a discussion on the mechanism of commodity-money relations.

The main importance of this mechanism is that directions were provided for extricating our integrated cooperation from its stagnant state—a condition which can be seen first and foremost in the stagnation of mutual trade and in its archaic structure. Ultimately the latest decisions are aimed at creating a unified market among the CEMA countries. A market in which the main players will be enterprises and associations establishing direct commercial ties between each other on the basis of economic interest rather than on orders from above, as is the case at present. The restructuring of foreign-currency and financial relations has an important role to play in this.

M. Lyubskiy: Socialist economic integration is now entering a new stage whose main distinguishing feature is the switching of the focus of all cooperation to the enterprise and association level. Under these conditions it is necessary to fundamentally restructure the entire integration mechanism. In short, there is now an emerging need to reactivate cost instruments, above all prices and exchange rates. Without them enterprises' foreign economic activity on the basis of complete economic accountability will be simply impossible.

In this connection the course has been set of creating the conditions for strengthening the transfer ruble. In practice this should mean ensuring the unencumbered utilization of funds denominated in transfer rubles as payment for shipments from any CEMA country. I have in mind the creation of conditions for really multilateral settlements.

R. Grinberg: But can the monetary functions of the transfer ruble be developed in its present form? In my opinion, this is the wrong way of looking at the question. We set up the transfer ruble as a nominal accounting unit to "compute" the size of agreed reciprocal shipments on a strictly bilateral basis. The name itself is misleading. In actual fact transfer rubles are extremely hard to convert even within the framework of bilateral relations and cannot be transferred to third countries at all.

M. Lyubskiy: Another point is that the purchasing power of transfer rubles varies in connection with the different prices for similar goods. This also acts as a hindrance to the multilateral balancing of accounts. Yet we are talking about the future, when a gradual transition to the creation of a more sophisticated collective monetary unit will take place as the conditions for it emerge.

A. Altshuler: The last sitting of the 43d CEMA session discussed, in particular, the fact that this monetary unit could also be convertible on the world foreign-exchange markets.

R. Grinberg: In my opinion, such a collective foreign currency could only be created as a result of the introduction of the complete convertibility of national currencies. We must not have any illusions or skip stages.

[Cherepanov] Let us talk about the convertibility of national currencies, since we have touched upon this question. What is this and why is it necessary?

M. Lyubskiy: Convertibility is the state-guaranteed more or less free exchange of national currency for foreign currency to carry out various payments. The introduction of convertibility is necessary for the development of new forms of integration cooperation—above all, direct ties and joint enterprises. Certain CEMA countries have already agreed to use their own national currencies for reciprocal payments on a trial basis.

Certain conditions, however, are required for convertibility to function normally. Chief among these are the introduction of wholesale trade in capital goods, realistic exchange rates, and balance in the domestic market.

Let me say straightaway that we will be hampered. The differentiated foreign-exchange coefficients currently used in the USSR rule out the use of a single criterion for the convertibility of our currencies. We do not yet have realistic ruble exchange rates for the fraternal countries' currencies.

[Cherepanov] Why are not all CEMA countries currently prepared to make their currencies convertible?

M. Lyubskiy: Clearly the conditions for this are not ripe everywhere. Certain countries consider this question to be a matter for the more distant future.

R. Grinberg: The principle of the interest of countries currently operates within CEMA. This means that those who are prepared to cooperate do cooperate on given issues. The rest can join in later.

In general the extensive convertibility of CEMA currencies can be said to be synonymous with a CEMA unified market. I think that only a group of countries will initially participate in this unified market.

[Cherepanov] Well, I see we have come to the central question of our "roundtable" discussion—the CEMA unified market.

R. Grinberg: A new logic for reciprocal cooperation is being worked out: It is a transition from virtual exchange in kind between states as such to the reciprocal exchange of goods between enterprises and associations.

M. Lyubskiy: The CEMA unified market will be an integrated market—a "market of markets." If domestic markets do not emerge in the socialist countries there will be no unified market.

[Cherepanov] What can be expected of the unified market?

R. Grinberg: Our current mechanism for reciprocal exchange boils down, so to speak, to the leftover principle. First each country shapes its own 5-year plans and in accordance with them the country looks to the other socialist states for what it lacks. The structure of exchange in kind is coordinated "centrally."

The administration-by-edict system of economic management that has grown up in each of the socialist countries has been accurately reproduced in relations within CEMA too. This has happened as a result of virtual ignorance of the law of value. With a unified market, when all enterprises switch to complete economic accountability, fundamentally different trade relations will prevail.

The unified market will let us organize a more flexible price formation mechanism, including the extensive utilization of contractual prices in relations between partners in exchange. It is essentially a question of wholesale trade across national borders. This will make it possible to overcome the current virtual isolation of the CEMA economies from each other. Furthermore, the unified market will make it possible to remove the diktat of the producer over the consumer and to increase the competitiveness of the goods produced. After all, any Western enterprise is, so to speak, exposed to the chill winds of the world. But socialist country enterprises are still in hothouse conditions.

[Cherepanov] So are we trusting to the whim of the market?

R. Grinberg: No, we are talking about socialist competition and a regulated state market; under these conditions there is no need to fear accusations that we are gambling on the widespread use of market instruments. The "center" will influence enterprises' economically accountable interests via normatives that correct their "behavior" and ensure that mutual economic ties get priority.

[Cherepanov] Very many problems stand in the way of the creation of a unified market. In particular, there is the socialist countries' foreign debt. Until recently we shamefacedly discussed it under our breath. Although it is high time to seriously investigate everything.

V. Karavayev: You are absolutely right. The debt problem has become worldwide. The main debtors, as is well-known, are the developing countries. The socialist states occupy a very modest place among them.

In the middle of 1986 the overall indebtedness of the European CEMA countries and their banks was $110 billion. Net indebtedness, allowing for our contributions to Western banks, amounted to $82 billion.

Poland accounts for approximately one-third of the total debt—$35 billion. Poland is the largest debtor and its debts are of a permanent nature. This problem has also become sharply exacerbated recently in Hungary. Hungary with its gross debt of $16 billion ($9.3 billion net) is the number one European socialist country in terms of per capita debt.

[Cherepanov] Could you state the size of other CEMA countries' debts?

V. Karavayev: Around $8 billion for the GDR and $6 billion for Romania.

Incidentally, as I have already stated, the situation is getting worse, particularly in Poland and Hungary. Until recently there were certain grounds for optimism about an improvement in overall indebtedness. But debts are growing—and extremely rapidly of late. There had been hopes that we had been given from the experience of the seventies, but this hope has so far been dashed.

A. Altshuler: It would be very complicated to switch to a unified market with debts on this scale. After all, today debts make countries' decisions within the sphere of their domestic and foreign economic policy dependent on tasks linked with debt repayment; debts restrict trade turnover and its efficiency, and have a negative impact on economic development and the resolution of social tasks. Within the framework of the CEMA region it is necessary to step up the coordination of countries' foreign exchange and credit policies regarding the West. Each country cannot solve the debt problem on its own. The real way to do this lies through the coordinated collective actions of interested CEMA countries.

[Cherepanov] We constantly talk about the interdependence of CEMA countries. But what if we look at international economic relations as a whole? I am thinking of the socialist countries' dependence on the world market and foreign-exchange and financial problems.

V. Karavayev: The processes taking place in the world economic system are also reflected in the CEMA countries. The simplest example can be taken from life, so to speak. The price of oil—one of our main export goods—fell. This meant that our foreign exchange earnings fell. The number of imported goods in our stores fell sharply. This was also true of coffee.

We have the idea that things are bad for them and it is their problem. But that is fundamentally wrong. To a certain extent it is also our problem. The cyclical downturns in the capitalist world in 1974-75 and 1980-82 had a negative impact on East-West relations. Now we are starting to experience difficulties with our exports. They have fallen sharply and the trade deficit has grown correspondingly.

We thus have no interest in seeing the world economy collapse into turmoil.

[Cherepanov] Just what are our interests?

A. Altshuler: It is in our interest for this system and its foreign exchange and financial mechanism to function normally without interruptions. We participate in the system, use its foreign exchange instruments, and effect payments in dollars and other Western currencies. That is why it is a question of the stability of the world economy.

[Cherepanov] Let us return to relations within CEMA and to foreign exchange and financial policy. Stability is also needed here. I am thinking of the organizational and legal mechanism.

A. Altshuler: At the contemporary stage the creation of the legal foundations for the foreign exchange and financial mechanism—which is being restructured—and the stepping up of the legal guarantees for the implementation of the decisions being made and for the provision of legal protection for the economic interests of all participants in foreign currency relations are particularly important.

Over the last year or so the USSR has adopted a number of important legal acts which lay a good legal foundation for the development of new forms of foreign-currency relations.

These acts are directly aimed at stimulating socialist initiative at enterprises and associations in the area of foreign exchange and economic activity. Enterprises and associations have been given the right to create foreign currency funds, to pool the sums held in these funds, and to transfer foreign currency to each other for temporary use on mutually advantageous terms. They have received the right to set up joint enterprises with organizations in the socialist countries and with firms from the developing and industrially developed capitalist countries, to create joint-stock companies and partnerships, to participate in foreign joint-stock companies, and to invest abroad. Of course, all these decisions will require the issuance of a number of normative acts concerning the commercial activities of enterprises and banks in the execution of their foreign-currency operations, including the passing of legislation in our country covering shareholdings and foreign exchange operations.

[Cherepanov] And in CEMA?

A. Altshuler: Major work also lies ahead there, particularly in the foreign exchange and financial sphere.

The projected creation of an international bank for enterprises is being discussed within the CEMA framework. The idea of setting up a CEMA foreign-currency union is being posited in scientific circles. There have also been other ideas. But putting all these ideas into practice is not so easy.

But we are realists; we see all the problems before us. They are complex and major. It is important that the political decisions made in our country on the restructuring of the foreign exchange and financial mechanism and the outlined measures within the CEMA community have already started to be actively translated into reality.

Gerasimov Briefs Journalists in Moscow 28 Jan

On State-of-Union Address

LD281358 Moscow TASS in English 1351 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 28 TASS—The Soviet Union fully shares the goal of building a safer world and reducing the danger of nuclear war, which has been proclaimed by President Reagan in his State-Of-The-Union address, Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov said at a briefing here today.

Gerasimov, chief of the ministry's Information Directorate, added:

"We agree also with the view that the INF Treaty is 'unprecedented achievement in arms reduction'. We agree that the treaty is 'historic'."

The U.S. Administration sent the treaty to Senate for ratification on the day the President was delivering the address to Congress.

He stressed an "even more significant" agreement on strategic offensive arms reduction as a priority for his administration and said his government's efforts would be to give future generations a future free of nuclear weapons. "We welcome this clear-cut commitment by the American leadership," Gerasimov said.

"And the path to this goal has been specified in the joint statement of the leaders of our countries- radical cuts in strategic nuclear arsenals along with abidance by the ABM Treaty, as signed in 1972."

"Regrettably," the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman added, "Along with these positive remarks, the address contained the usual set of stereotypes in the spirit of earlier White House statements about a 'need' for America to step up its military preparations.

"This goes to show that in practice the administration's stand has not yet been brought into line with its publicly expressed intentions and the understandings reached in Washington between the general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee and the U.S. President," Gerasimov said.

On U.S. Cocom Restrictions

LD281453 Moscow TASS in English 1442 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 28 TASS—According to reports reaching here, at the political conference of the countries grouped in the Cocom committee, which is currently under way in Versailles, Washington would like to include further goods and technologies on the lists of products banned for export to socialist countries and legalize U.S. claims to the right to punish firms and nations defying those lists, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said here today.

Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the ministry's Information Directorate, was speaking at a briefing.

"Regrettably, this is happening at a time when there have appeared signs of far-reaching positive changes in the development of trade, economic, scientific and technological ties between East and West," he went on to say.

Business quarters in Western Europe have been showing a desire and readiness to pursue cooperative manufacture arrangements with socialist countries and set up more joint ventures, and recognize the need to put an end to the Cocom practices.

"But those objecting to normal East-West trade have decided to push in the opposite direction."

"In our opinion," the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said, "the Cocom activities contradict the universally recognized norms of international cooperation in trade and economic fields, in particular the GATT rules, and are effectively an attempt to misuse commercial, scientific and technological ties as a lever for political and economic pressure."

"Such activities," he continued, "run counter also to the U.N. Charter and to the letter and spirit of the Helsinki Final Act and are not conducive to East-West trust."

The spokesman said plans to raise further obstacles between East and West "do not square with the nascent atmosphere of international cooperation and are a stark contrast to the spirit of the recent Soviet-American accords intended to facilitate economic interaction in our inter-dependent world in every way".

Denies Party Plenum Meeting

LD281325 Moscow TASS in English 1320 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 28 TASS—A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman has denied claims by a correspondent of the American newspaper BALTIMORE SUN, Anterro Pietila, that the CPSU Central Committee would hold a plenary meeting in Moscow "today or tomorrow."

Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Foreign Ministry's Information Directorate, told a briefing here today that the BALTIMORE SUN correspondent reminded him of "British Admiral Nelson who, in pursuit of Napoleon's squadron hastening to Egypt, moved so fast that he arrived in Egypt before Napoleon."

Urges Lao-Thai Rapprochement

LD281442 Moscow TASS in English 1423 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 28 TASS—"The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic issued a statement on January 25 in connection with the worsening of the situation in the border area of Baten, Sayaboury province. The Lao side comes out for the discontinuation of hostilities and the holding of talks with the Thai side in Bangkok or Vientiane early in February", Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Information Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said at a briefing here today.

"The present border incident is deplorable, even more so because it is taking place at the time when a real prospect of the settlement of the existing controversal problems by peaceful means emerged in the region. The Soviet Union supports the course followed by Laos towards the settlement of border disputes with Thailand by political means at the negotiating table. The USSR comes out for a peaceful settlement of the conflict on the border between the two countries and for the restoration of good neighbourly relations between them", he pointed out.

Denies Afghan Rebel Contact

LD281315 Moscow TASS in English 1259 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 28 TASS—A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman today denied reports in Stockholm that a representative of Afghan anti-government forces during the recent visit of Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, to Sweden had conveyed important information to the Soviet Government.

Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the Ministry's Information Directorate, said: "Representatives of the USSR have not made and are not going to make any contact with the Afghan anti-government bandits."

On Talks With Helsinki Group

LD281415 Moscow TASS in English 1355 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 28 TASS—"A delegation from the international Federation of Helsinki Human Rights Groups, invited by the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation, had an opportunity to conduct discussions with representatives of the Soviet public and officials on issues of interest to the delegation," a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman told a briefing here today.

Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Foreign Ministry's Information Directorate, said that delegation members had meetings with Lev Tolkunov, chairman of the Soviet Committee for European Security and cooperation and chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Boris Kravets, minister of justice of the Soviet Union, Leonid Sizov, first deputy minister of the interior of the USSR, and Oleg Shchepin, first deputy health minister of the USSR.

The delegation will be received today by Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Anatoliy Adamishin. Meetings have been planned with Konstantin Kharchev, chairman of the Council for Religious Affairs at the USSR Council of Ministers, and Valentin Falin, chairman of the board of the NOVOSTI press agency.

"The discussions in Moscow show the possibility of transition from confrontation to cooperation in the field of human rights," Gerasimov said.

"And this is despite the fact that the discussions also revealed a difference in the assessment of individual facts and phenomena.

Our partners expressed the desire to receive a corresponding Soviet delegation in Vienna and other capitals."

Announces Aid for Ethiopia

LD281337 Moscow TASS in English 1330 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 28 TASS—"The Soviet Union will render gratuitous aid to the Ethiopian population due to the onset of another wave of drought in Ethiopia and in response to an appeal from that country's government," a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman told a briefing here today.

Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Foreign Ministry's Information Directorate, said that 250,000 tons of wheat would be delivered to Ethiopia in the first three months of 1988.

"The Soviet aviation unit participating in the effort to eliminate drought consequences will stay on in Ethiopia for another year," he said.

"In 1988-1989 Soviet experts will carry out hydrogeological prospecting for water in order to supply the population of Ethiopia's southeastern regions."

The Soviet spokesman said that 200 tents would be handed over as a gift to Ethiopia to store grain. The Soviet Red Cross would send foodstuffs, baby food and medicines.

Rymko Comments on Security in Northern Europe

LD271402 Moscow TASS in English 1253 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 27 TASS—"Security and cooperation in the north of Europe provides a wide scope for the joint actions of the countries of the region," this idea keynoted the speech by Yevgeniy Rymko, a spokesman for the USSR Foreign Ministry, who spoke at a briefing

for Soviet journalists at the USSR Foreign Ministry today. The briefing was devoted to the Murmansk initiatives of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the official visits to Sweden and Norway by Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

"The Soviet Union is seeking an improvement in the situation not only in the north of Europe but also in the north of the entire planet," the Soviet spokesman said. "The proposals set forth by Mikhail Gorbachev in Murmansk on October 1, 1987, are aimed at promoting detente in this region of the world."

"They represent a multifaceted programme of actions united by a single goal—to achieve a radical reduction in the level of military confrontation in the northern hemisphere, to replace mistrust, suspicion and confrontation with trust and wide-scale peaceful cooperation and interaction. This package of proposals aims to improve cooperation in the economy, technology and science between the region's countries."

The Soviet spokesman emphasized that Nikolay Ryzhkov's visits to Sweden and Norway gave fresh impulse to the development of Soviet-Swedish and Soviet-Norwegian relations. The talks in Stockholm and Oslo focused on trade and economic issues in the light of favourable conditions brought about by economic cooperation resulting from the restructuring drive in the ussr. "People in the USSR are convinced that a lot can be done to extend mutually advantageous economic relations and consequently, to strengthen friendship and goodneighbourliness between countries and nations of the region."

Pyadyshev Remarks on Glasnost in Foreign Policy

AU271856 Sofia OTECHESTVEN FRONT in Bulgarian 25 Jan 88 p 3

[Interview with Boris Pyadyshev, "editor in chief of the journal MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN and member of the Collegium of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR," by Rositsa Pavlova, candidate of economic sciences: "Glasnost and Candor in Soviet Foreign Policy"]

[Text] [Pavlova] You were recently appointed editor in chief of the journal MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN. In your new post, how do you assess the contribution that the press can make for the greater effectiveness of foreign policy?

[Pyadyshev] MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN is a publication with an established reputation, both at home and abroad. However, the time has come for restructuring. Now MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN has become an organ of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR. Nevertheless, this does not at all mean that the materials in the journal will only reflect the official viewpoint, and will be orthodox in nature. The association with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will give the editorial board an opportunity to base its reports on solid information, but no one will restrict the right to conduct discussion or the right to voice one's own viewpoint. Furthermore, the All-Union Society for Knowledge, a mass educational organization, remains the sponsor of the journal.

The more glasnost spreads, the less room is left for cover-ups—and our treaties and agreements will be so much the more secure and long-lasting. There are many examples of how decisions made behind closed doors prove to have grievous consequences. Decisions which affect the fate of mankind should be known to the people. Our people must obtain a precise picture of the processes under way in the world—in the United States and in other countries, both near and far. This should not be an illusory, dogmatic description of these processes, but a complete objective picture. Debates and discussions on problems of foreign policy must take place on a scientific basis, and our guideline must be to strive to serve as well as possible the national goals of the Soviet Union and our allies. This will secure the home front of our socialist foreign policy in an even more reliable manner.

[Pavlova] You were an eyewitness of the epoch-making event of the signing of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles. Now this treaty is to be ratified. Do you consider that the new political thinking has brought mankind onto the path toward a nuclear-free future?

[Pyadyshev] The Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, together with the other results of Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Washington, means that we have reached the watershed in Soviet-U.S. relations so far, as well as in international life as a whole.

I assume that the essence of the treaty is well-known to everyone. I would therefore like to deal with the philosophy behind the Soviet foreign policy that led to this historic agreement. The concept of reasonable sufficiency in the field of defense was set out the April 1985 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, when the new leadership under Mikhail Gorbachev made a start on formulating its foreign policy program; it was also stated in a number of other documents, and later at the 27th CPSU Congress: We have no need for arms in excess of the level we require for the reliable defense of our homeland and our allies. It was clearly stated that it is no longer possible to construct our policy on the premise that our country must be as strong as any possible coalition of allied states. If one compares our own economic potential with that of the United States, Western Europe, and Japan, one is left with no doubt that the slogan "We will repulse any challenge" has already become reckless, and provides no guarantee for our country's security.

The renunciation of the nuclear missiles was difficult. The view exists that they are a symbol of the country's might. Some believe that by renouncing them, we are depriving ourselves of the trappings of a great power.

The new political thinking manifested itself in the fact that the Soviet leadership took a new look, from realistic positions, at the comparative values of our own and the U.S. missiles. They adopted as their criterion not the numbers of missiles, but their capacity to solve specific tasks. From this viewpoint, the copyright of the "zero option" belongs to us.

Even the most lofty ideals cannot stand higher than sound common sense. Naked pragmatism is foreign to our policy. The task that Soviet diplomacy has been set is quintessentially an ideological one, namely, to secure for our country conditions under which the Soviet people will be increasingly able to work to raise the standard and quality of our life.

Of course, it would be mere deception for us to think that the 3-day visit to the United States transformed everything. Yet the changes are not few in number. Now it will be more and more difficult for their right-wing circles to cultivate the image of "the evil empire." What is more, the originator of this phrase has already frankly confessed that he no longer believes that the USSR is striving to achieve world domination and that its intentions include the destruction of Western society.

A serious struggle lies ahead in the United States over the ratification of the treaty. A certain retreat on the part of the Americans may be expected, as always happens after such out-of-the-ordinary, significant events that led to success for us.

However, this breakthrough in the sphere of international relations points to the true course for progress.

[Pavlova] Now, when the world has received a charge of optimism, what, in your view, are the main points on the agenda for Soviet foreign policy?

[Pyadyshev] The main landmarks seem to be clear. These are the working out of an agreement on a sharp, 50% reduction in Soviet and U.S. strategic arms, while observing the terms of the ABM Treaty, and other possible agreements during the U.S. President's visit to the Soviet Union, which is planned for the first half of 1988.

If no dramatic complications crop up, we stand on the threshold of many important agreements with the United States. All the same, I would cite Afghanistan as one of the priority issues of Soviet foreign policy. At present it is our greatest problem. The near future will provide its own assessment, both of this problem and the reasons why it arose. The Soviet leadership has now adopted a political decision on the withdrawal of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

With regard to the problems of disarmament, both with the United States and with other states, quite good prospects are opening up for progress in the field of strategic offensive arms, conventional arms, and chemical weapons, and for building the foundation for further work on all other aspects of disarmament.

Helsinki Human Rights Group Meets With Committee

PM280915 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Jan 88 Morning Edition p 5

[V. Mikheyev report: "Establishing Contacts"]

[Text] A meeting has taken place in Moscow between a delegation from the International Helsinki Federation on Human Rights and representatives of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation. This is the first time that contact has been made between these two nongovernmental public organizations.

Ye. Silin, deputy chairman of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation, gave the visitors an account of the activity of the committee and its six commissions, in particular the commission on humanitarian cooperation and human rights that was set up last year.

"The processes of glasnost and restructuring in the Soviet Union are arousing interest in our country," Reiulf Steen, former chairman of the Norwegian Labor Party, said at the meeting. "Our aim is not to interfere in other countries' internal affairs but to examine human rights questions as a general problem of a global character."

It is by developing and expanding the general rules by which the 30 peoples inhabiting Europe agree to live and cooperate that the foundations of our common home may be laid," former Netherlands foreign minister Max Van der Stoel stressed. He noted the great importance of the Soviet side's proposal at the Vienna meeting on the convening of an international forum in Moscow on questions of humanitarian cooperation and human rights.

Meet With Psychiatrists

LD271912 Moscow TASS in English 1852 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 27 TASS—"I would like to note the spirit of cooperation and openness that prevailed during our first discussions with Soviet representatives", Von Schwarzenberg, chairman of the International Helsinki Human Rights Committee, said in a TASS interview today.

"Sometimes, there is no full concord even among relatives in one family. For all the differences in standpoints on several issues, these meetings and conversations were fruitful".

The group comprising more than 20 people from Western Europe, the United States and Canada arrived in Moscow on the invitation of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation. On Tuesday, the group met leading Soviet scientists in the field of psychiatry.

"One has to hear not infrequently that the Institute of General Forensic Psychiatry named after Serbskiy is allegedly a closed treatment institution. This is not so. Our doors are wide open to specialists and colleagues from Western countries", said Georgiy Morozov, director of the institute. "I could list the names of many specialists from Western states who visited our institute and commended the level of psychiatric science in the Soviet Union".

The members of the Helsinki group received answers to numerous questions concerning the regulations governing commitment of patients to psychiatric clinics in the Soviet Union, their treatment and guarantees for the preservation of civil rights. They also received answers, among others, to charges that there were cases of forcible confinement to psychiatric clinics.

Today, the delegation met with representatives of the Soviet human rights group at the Soviet Committee for European Security. "We put before us two tasks: To develop contacts with our colleagues abroad, those who deal with the problem of human rights on the basis of the Helsinki agreements and the respective U.N. documents, and also to contribute towards adoption of improved legislation in the Soviet Union, which would protect the people's rights in the social, political and economic fields", said Professor Fyodor Burlatskiy who chaired this meeting. An intensive exchange of views was held, including on issues on which the points of view diverged.

"An obvious shift to the positive side has shaped up on the human rights problem in the Soviet Union. But movement in this direction should be continued", Robert Bernstein, chairman of the "Watch Committees", a public organisation which is incorporated into the International Helsinki Human Rights Committee, told TASS.

Timofeyev 'Cold-Shouldered'

AU271959 Paris AFP in English 1943 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow, Jan 27 (AFP)—Soviet dissident Lev Timofeyev was cold-shouldered here Wednesday at an official Soviet forum on human rights, where he was grudgingly given the platform for a brief speech after first being flatly refused.

Soviet Committee Chairman Fedor Burlatskiy accused the forum's guests the International Helsinki Federation (IHF) of looking for "a scandal" by inviting Mr Timofeyev to speak.

A former political prisoner and current chairman of the dissident Press-Club Glasnost, Mr Timofeyev organised an unofficial seminar on human rights here in December, despite official hindrance.

When Mr Burlatski finally relented, Mr Timofeyev spoke of the 200 political prisoners dissident physicist Andrey Sakharov had brought to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's attention on January 15.

He said many of those in jail had done nothing "but defend the ideas now being expressed by the members of the new Soviet committee (chaired by Mr Burlatskiy)".

New International Cooperation Fund Viewed

AU221256 Sofia ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME in Bulgarian 19 Jan 88 p 4

[Article by Eduard Baskakov, NOVOSTI observer,: "If the Intellectuals From All Countries..." "specially written for ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME"]

[Text] Throughout several decades, delegates to Geneva negotiations have engaged in fruitless discussions about whether one can effectively control nuclear tests through technical means. The Soviet and American scientists came together, and in no more than 2 months proceeded with a series of experiments that left no doubts that any agreement on the banning of nuclear tests can be verified by seismic means.

This example alone demonstrates the tremendous potential of international cooperation among representatives of the intelligentsia in solving not only complicated global but also regional problems of our integral, mutually inter-connected world. A new non-governmental organization was established in Moscow quite recently, called "International Fund for the Survival and Development of Mankind," to intensify this potential. In accordance with the idea launched by the participants in the Moscow international forum "For a Nuclear-Free World, for the Survival of Mankind" held in February 1987, the fund joins together distinguished scientists and scholars, as well as public figures, cultural leaders, and representatives of the clergy from various countries.

I am far from the thought that people, who are so different, can fully agree among themselves on all problems of our complicated and controversial world—these people include A. Hammer, the president of the well-known Occidental Petroleum Corporation and Metropolitan Pitirim, former U.S. Defense Secretary Robert MacNamara, and Soviet Academician Zakharov, Academician E.P. Velikhov, deputy chairman of the USSR Academy of Sciences, who was elected chairman of the Fund's Directorial Council, and Susan Eisenhower, head of the Dwight Eisenhower World Affairs Institute, as well as authoritative representatives of science and culture from Sweden, the FRG, Brazil, India, the GDR and Israel. Nevertheless, all these people were able to agree on one major issue: the necessity of joining their efforts

to solve the most urgent problems of mankind along the path of new political thinking, based on the balance of interests and mutual respect.

The fund, which is totally independent from any government, has its own financial means from private contributions and is relying upon three permanent centers stationed in Moscow, Stockholm, and Washington. It gives assistance (including financial assistance) to research to clarify urgent problems of our era, particularly problems connected with halting the nuclear arms race and averting the transfer of offensive weapons to outer space. It is obvious, that even after the ratification of the Soviet-American INF Treaty, the encouragement of the disarmament process will continue to be one of the most important tasks. The aktivists of the fund can have their saying on ecological issues, education, information, and the preservation of cultural treasures. Naturally, the activities of the fund will have a tremendous impact upon politics.

I think the establishment of the new organization conforms to the idea expressed by Mikhail Gorbachev in September 1987 in his well-known article entitled "Reality and the Guarantee for a Safe World." The Soviet leader stated the following in his article: "In our opinion it is high time to establish a new consultative council under the aegis of the United Nations, to join together the intellectual elite of the world. Outstanding scientists, political leaders, and public figures, representatives of international social organizations, cultural figures, representatives of literature and the arts, including Nobel Prize winners and winners of other international awards of world-wide significance, and distinguished representatives of the Church would be able to enrich considerably the intellectual and ethical potential of contemporary global politics." Who knows, perhaps, the new fund, after strengthening and maturing, will further be transformed into a "world council of wise men," whose recommendations will determine to a great extent, the activities of the governments and the destinies of mankind.

Mikhail Gorbachev's meeting with the leaders of the fund held on 15 January 1988 testified that Moscow is sincerely supporting the lofty goals of the new organization. A thorough exchange of opinions on topical problems of world politics, on the role of scientists, and of the public in disseminating and further developing the ideas of new thinking called upon to guarantee the survival of mankind took place during this meeting.

Petrovskiy Addresses UN Information Conference

LD271650 Moscow TASS in English 1628 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 27 TASS—TASS correspondents Aleksander Alyokhin and Igor Agabekov report:

"Information service must be a reliable source of knowledge about what takes place in the world", USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy said today addressing participants in a regional conference of directors of the United Nations information centres of European countries and countries of North America, under way in the Soviet capital.

"Your meeting in Moscow takes place at an important moment when a turn from confrontation, to new more reasonable international relations takes place as a result of the Soviet-American agreement on the elimination of intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles. One of the most important tasks of the present is the creation of a comprehensive system of confidence which would comprise all spheres of interstate activity. The time has come to start cooperation not only in disarmament matters, but also in the area of economics, human rights, ecology, etc. The information service must be the main instrument in achieving such cooperation. We have no ready receipes so far, but one thing is clear: It is necessary to find new approaches to the matter, to start a dialogue to work out common positions, to arrive at an action programme that will be acceptable for all".

CEMA Secretary Receives UN Official in Moscow

LD260507 Moscow TASS in English 2342 GMT 25 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 25 TASS—TASS correspondent Yuriy Aleksandrovich reports:

Relations that have formed over many years between the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and the United Nations organization were described as fruitful by CMEA Secretary Vyacheslav Sychov. He received today at the CMEA Secretariat U.N. Under-Secretary-General, Director of the Department of Public Information Therese Paquet-Sevigny.

V. Sychov noted that in the 39 years of its existence, the CMEA formed business relations with more than 60 international organizations, above all with the United Nations and its specialised organizations. Since 1974, representatives of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance have been attending annual sessions of the United Nations General Assembly and maintaining permanent contacts with the United Nations Secretariat, with many regional commissions. There are close ties of partners between the CMEA and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.

Nevertheless there are still untapped resources for the further consolidation and widening of contacts with the United Nations organization, the CMEA secretary holds.

The U.N. under-secretary-general showed much interest in various aspects of the CMEA activity. V. Sychov dwelt at length on the restructuring now taking place in the CMEA. Unlike the EEC, CMEA has never performed

nor will be performing supranational functions, he noted. The main instruments of cooperation are the coordination of national economic plans, agreeing upon measures in the economic, scientific and technological areas, advancement of the development of specialisation and cooperation of production. A collective concept of international division of labour is being worked out now and will be submitted to a meeting of the CMEA session.

The priority direction of the activity of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance is now the implementation of the comprehensive programme of scientific and technological progress of the CMEA countries up to the year 2000. This programme is open for cooperation to any country. A great interest in it was shown, for instance, by Yugoslavia. After official relations are established between the CMEA and the EEC, cooperation of countries of both groups is possible also on priority directions of scientific and technological revolution.

As to the European Economic Community as a whole, the time is not far off when official relations with that organization will be established, V. Sychov holds.

Therese Paquet-Sevigny today arrived in Moscow to take part in a regional conference of directors of the United Nations information centres in Europe to be held on January 26-28.

Gerasimov Introduces Film on United Nations

LD272310 [Editorial report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 2005 GMT on 27 January broadcasts a 20-minute documentary film "The United Nations Organization: Results for 1987". The film is prefaced by a 5-minute recorded talk by USSR Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov.

Gerasimov surveys the history of the UN: "The UN has worked in different ways during its 42 years. There was a time when our newspapers wrote about the U.S. voting machine gaining the upper hand in the General Assembly. Later on, as the number of new countries in the UN grew, following their emancipation from colonialism, the United States found itself more and more frequently in the minority. But in both cases, UN debates overflowed with political polemics. Yet the UN was not intended to be a forum for confrontational debates in which each side had, of necessity, to prove its own case. After all, during such debates, the focus would shift willy-nilly towards diminishing the unity of nations. Sometimes people speak disparagingly of the UN, calling it a paper factory issuing resolutions that are ignored and reports that go unread."

Gerasimov continues, the main purpose of the UN is to unite humanity in the face of common problems. The most important problem is, of course, that of keeping the peace. The aim of the film is to give an idea of the range of problems tackled by the UN. "The year 1987 was a financially difficult year for the UN: the United States did not pay its UN dues, amounting to over $400 million. But, from the point of view of its activities, 1987 was extremely important in the history of the UN." The 42d session, he says, passed a resolution on a comprehensive international peace and security system.

Gerasimov makes the point that the fact it is being shown on nationwide television is an indication of the USSR's constructive attitude toward the UN. The film reviews what the UN is doing in such fields as housing and sanitation, world health, AIDS, drug abuse, the natural environment, poverty, natural disasters, and Third World indebtedness. It also surveys UN efforts to restore peace in Central America, the Persian Gulf, southern Africa, and Cyprus. Finally, the film highlights the UN's role in providing a forum for the major issue of today—the question of nuclear weapons. The year 1987 was crowned by the signing of the INF Treaty.

Shikalov Comments on Vienna CSCE Talks

PM271657 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Jan 88 Morning Edition p 4

[Dispatch by own correspondent S. Tosunyan: "Decisive Round of Vienna Meeting"]

[Text] Vienna—The Vienna meeting of representatives of 35 CSCE states has resumed after a 1-month recess. Consultations among 23 Warsaw Pact and NATO countries engaged in drawing up a mandate for new talks on reducing armed forces and conventional arms in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals will be continued as part of it.

The telex machines installed at the press center have started chattering again. Only delegation members are allowed access to the conference hall, and journalists have to be satisfied with conversations with meeting participants during brief breaks. When asked whether it can be hoped that the new round will end with the adoption of a final document, most people answer in the affirmative. The forum delegates explain their optimism as follows: If the USSR and the United States were able to sign a treaty on such a complex issue as the elimination of two classes of nuclear missiles, there should be a breakthrough in Vienna. A further important argument: In Washington the leaders of the two countries expressed their determination to ensure, together with the other CSCE members, a successful conclusion to the Vienna meeting on the basis of balanced progress in all the main sections of the Helsinki Final Act and the Madrid final document.

Austrian Federal Chancellor Franz Vranitzky expressed his hope for a swift and successful conclusion to the Vienna meeting when I asked him his opinion on the forum's progress just before the new round began.

"If you judge by the results of the work carried out last year, progress toward the goal—the goal of drawing up a final document—is uneven in the various sections," the

chancellor said. "This is not surprising, since virtually the whole range of international relations is under discussion, that is to say, military, political, economic, and humanitarian questions. The progress made in the disarmament sphere should encourage those who are working on the other areas. Given goodwill on the part of the participants, and I believe that they do possess it, the Vienna meeting will be successful and will mark an important milestone toward detente, disarmament, and the establishment of an atmosphere of trust among countries."

When the first plenary session after the recess was over, I asked envoy V.T. Shikalov, member of the USSR delegation, to talk about the Soviet stance at the Vienna meeting.

"We have now reached the really crucial point, the adoption of political decisions which could substantially affect the further development of East-West relations in all areas established by the Helsinki Final Act," the envoy said. "That gives special importance to the round of the Vienna meeting that started today. We, the direct participants, must do everything possible to ensure that future historians are unable to describe the meeting in the Austrian capital as a forum of missed opportunities.

"The signing of the Soviet-American Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles in Washington graphically showed the whole world, including Europeans, that it is possible to turn away from the arms race toward disarmament. The first step has been taken toward real destruction of the nuclear arsenal. What until still quite recently seemed utopian for many has assumed a distinct outline.

"Given this, the successful completion of the Vienna meeting assumes great importance. The Soviet delegation's standpoint is that the prevailing situation must be realistically assessed and specific conclusions drawn if success is to be achieved. Experience of previous work has shown that the advancing of extremist demands, excessive raising of the stakes, and attempts to gain one-sided advantages threaten to deadlock the matter.

"We are faced with the important task of drawing up accords that will in many respects determine the prospects for diminishing the danger of military confrontation and reducing military potentials throughout Europe, from the Atlantic to the Urals. The Soviet delegation considers that more favorable conditions are now developing for a successful conclusion to our work, both at the Vienna meeting and in the consultations of 23 Warsaw Pact and NATO countries. Since the conclusion of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles the problem of reducing armed forces and conventional arms and questions connected with the development of confidence- and security-building measures have come to the fore, along with reducing the arsenals of strategic offensive weapons. At the Vienna meeting, we will soon have to complete agreement of a final document, including its military-political section. Quite a few interesting ideas and specific proposals have been put forward on this score by, notably, the delegations of Sweden, Yugoslavia, Cyprus, Austria, and Ireland, as well as socialist countries. All this provides a basis for generally acceptable decisions. The Soviet delegation considers that there is a real opportunity at the consultations of the 23 to complete the drafting of a mandate for future talks. The Soviet delegation wants the Vienna meeting to adopt an accord on more effective, consistent implementation of the declaration of principles by which the states party to the CSCE agreed to be governed. The readiness of each participating state to conscientiously discharge its commitments according to international law, including those which stem from concluded treaties and agreements, must be unequivocally expressed in the final document.

"We will be doing everything possible to ensure that the gap between the 'second basket' and present day requirements is made up. The radical economic reforms taking place in our and other socialist countries today are creating real opportunities for developing large-scale trade, economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between the countries of East and West.

"It is fully realistic for questions of human rights and humanitarian cooperation to be removed from the sphere of confrontational polemics and channeled into practical collaboration among states. Quite a few provisions considerably advancing all-European cooperation in these important questions have already been preliminarily agreed. Our proposal for a conference in Moscow, which could practically examine the whole range of problems of humanitarian cooperation and human rights—political, civic, economic, social, and cultural—could serve as a specific form of multilateral collaboration.

"The Vienna forum could also make a substantial contribution to improving the mechanism for reciprocal information, consultation, and cooperation in the human rights and humanitarian spheres that has begun to take shape in the CSCE.

"Despite the fundamental differences of views on a number of problems that exist between West and East, mutually acceptable solutions can always be found, provided there is goodwill and flexibility.

Maksimov Comments on Differences in Cocom

LD272331 Moscow TASS in English 2325 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 27 (TASS)—TASS commentator Yuriy Maksimov writes:

What road international economic relations, above all East-West relations should take now? This question is relevant for the reason that, on the one hand, there are serious positive changes in the international political

arena. First of all under the impact of the agreement on the elimination of intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles recently concluded by the USSR and the USA and, on the other hand, discriminatory obstacles to trade of Western countries with socialist countries continue to exist and, by all indications, even toughen.

This is shown by the activity of the Coordination Committee for Control over Export to Socialist Countries, also known as Cocom.

High-ranking representatives of 16 countries in those headquarters of the "economic war" hold a meeting on January 27-28 in Versailles, near Paris. It is planned, specifically, to discuss the revision of a list of goods to which Cocom restrictions apply.

It is now clear that the sides represented in the Cocom have different positions. There is discrepancy in the approaches, above all, to the development of East-West trade by the United States and its West European partners.

The Americans, having once embarked on the course aimed at economic exhaustion of the Soviet Union continue persisting with it. The London "SUNDAY TIMES" reported that at the meeting in Versailles, a representative of the White House intends to preserve Cocom as a proven instrument for undermining commercial and economic cooperation and also intends to suggest tougher measures against those Western companies that wish to trade with the USSR and other socialist countries.

Everybody remembers the hullabaloo stirred up by Washington last year in connection with export by Japanese and Norwegian companies of so-called strategic equipment to the USSR. Political measures were apparently not enough to bring U.S. allies "to their senses", and the USA now wishes to better coordinate the punishment for such companies.

This policy clearly runs counter to business interests, and Cocom already backfired in this respect. Suffice it to recall heated arguments about the deliveries of compressors and other equipment for Yamburg-Hamburg trunk gas pipelines. Common sense then prevailed in a number of West European firms. And Washington now tries to crush it.

It is not accidental that a number of West European countries, specifically the FRG, intend to resist U.S. pressure. Critical remarks are made ever more often that the list of goods prohibited to exportage, [words indistinct] as the Pentagon put 300,000 items on it. Why artificially preserve, also contrary to the interests of the United States itself, the legacy of the cold war in an epoch which requires new thinking, new approaches to the solution of problems of importance to all countries?

United States & Canada

Gorbachev Message on U.S.-Soviet Agreement Day

LD271626 Moscow TASS in English 1611 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 27 TASS—Follows the full text of a message of greeting from Mikhail Gorbachev to Soviet and American participants in activities marking the 30th anniversary of the first agreement between the USSR and the United States on exchanges in the field of culture, technology and education:

"I greet the participants in the activities marking 30 years since the signature of the first Soviet-American agreement on exchanges in the field of culture, technology and education.

"This important date in the history of relations between the USSR and the U.S. makes it possible to take a look at the accumulated experience of cooperation and, drawing lessons from the past, to march forward along the path of further developing cultural, scientific and tehcnological ties between our countries and most diverse contacts and exchanges between the Soviet and American people.

"Time has confronted mankind with multiple challenges, often of a global nature. And the principal among them is the survival of world civilization and the removal of the nuclear threat.

"The fulfillment of this task is certainly facilitated by the intellectual and cultural interaction of nations, most notably through extensive contacts between people—politicians, scientists, writers, people in the arts, representatives of different walks of life and generations.

"This is why President Reagan and I during our meeting in Washington expressed satisfaction with such contacts having come to involve over the past two years tens of thousands of Soviet and American nationals, and reiterated our resolve to continue promoting this process in every way.

"The mutual interest of our nations in each other's culture is rooted deeply. And this interest has traditionally been mutual. The great thinkers, authors and scientists of Russia have valued all the best in the culture of the American nation.

"I am positive that the natural mutual enrichment of the two great nations meets the interests of the continued progress of world civilization and the cause of mutual understanding and peace.

"I sincerely wish all the participants in the anniversary activities success in their noble efforts to improve Soviet-American relations and consolidate the atmosphere of trust and cooperation."

Shevardnadze Reception Fetes 1st Agreement

LD271933 Moscow TASS in English 1918 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 27 TASS—Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and foreign minister of the USSR, today gave a reception on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the signing of the first Soviet-U.S. agreement on exchanges in the field of culture, technology and education.

The minister said that the 30th anniversary of the first intergovernmental agreement on exchanges was an unordinary event, especially in the present-day situation. This is emphasized in the messages of greetings by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan. The minister said that the Soviet Union aspired for further deepening Soviet-U.S. contacts at all levels.

Jack Matlock, U.S. ambassador to the USSR, expressed the hope that the relations between the United States and the USSR would continue auspiciously developing.

State Department on Agreement Anniversary

LD272314 Moscow TASS in English 2257 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Washington January 28 TASS—In conjunction with the 30th anniversary of the signing of the first agreement between the USSR and the United States on exchanges in the field of culture, technology and education, U.S. State Department official spokesman Charles Redman told a briefing Wednesday that it made possible for the first time ever youth exchanges, swaps in the field of education, culture, science, technology, sport and tourism.

Redman said that the agreement signed in Washington on January 27, 1958 created the opportunity to swap exhibitions and news between the two countries.

This document was followed by other agreements on exchanges. The latest of them being an agreement on contacts and exchanges in the field of science, education and culture signed during the summit meeting in Geneva in November 1985 by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

He said that a week of various events was being launched in the United States to mark this date. Among them is a Soviet-U.S. symposium on prospects and influence of exchanges at Gettysburg College (Pennsylvania) and a photo exhibition devoted to 30 years of exchanges.

Arbatov Reviews Progress in Bilateral Relations
LD271243 Moscow TASS in English 1158 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS—TASS Diplomatic Correspondent Vadim Biryukov reports:

"This is a date which we have a moral right to mark with cautious optimism" is how Academician Georgiy Arbatov, director of the Institute of U.S. and Canadian Studies of the USSR Academy of Sciences, has described the 30th anniversary of the signing of the agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States in the field of cultural exchanges. The anniversary of Soviet-U.S. relations is being marked today.

"The year 1958 set a modest beginning. That was, mainly, the time of exchanges of performing groups, which was very useful and prepared emotional ground for subsequent changes in relations," Academician Arbatov said in an interview with the TASS diplomatic correspondent.

"A period of cooperation in the field of social sciences coincided with the beginning of the 1970s. I have just returned from the United States where I signed a new agreement on behalf of the Academy of Sciences with the U.S. Council of Learned Societies for the next two years. In order to give an idea of progress made in this field, I can say that there are now more than 120 projects in this field as against nine in 1975."

"However, there is a whole number of fields where a period of downswing set in under the Reagan administration following an upswing in bilateral relations in the 1970s. This particularly applies to technology and exact sciences. It is true, there has been some brightening up in this field recently. But the Americans, I would say, still have a rather archaic idea of the Soviet Union nearly as a developing country. Hence the illusion that by cutting us off from having contacts with America in the field of high technology they can hinder our development and hamper our defense efforts. At present many are aware of how ridiculous such point of view is, particularly in the light of what takes place in outer space where the United States has been floundering for several years now. The Soviet Union has scored obvious achievements over the same period, particularly the space flight duration record set by Yuriy Romanenko."

"But against this background the absurd state of affairs in the field of restrictions in trade with socialist countries is keeping on. Ridiculous bans are imposed and various spectacles are staged. The Japanese Toshiba company sold machine tools to the Soviet Union. Later on American congressmen smashed the firm's quite cheap receiving set by sledge-hammers in order to amuse local reactionaries".

"At present such spectacles would hardly do", the academician went on to say. "Through such spectacles America puts itself in a non-competitive situation in relations with the Soviet Union. The USSR does not intend to buy old carts from the United States or tar for lubricating wheels. We shall purchase only research-intensive products. If we do not get them in America, we shall conclude deals with other countries. Besides, we ourselves, too, have a great potential in this field."

"Thirty years is an appreciable anniversary and it will be marked in the Soviet Union. This time we have more grounds than over a number of recent years to mark it with hope that relations between the Soviet Union and the United States are again reaching a positive orbit," Georgiy Arbatov stated.

"The Soviet-U.S. INF Treaty signed in December is an indicator that bilateral successes are beginning to show in the most important field such as termination of the arms race, and in other fields, including bilateral relations."

U.S. Plans SDI-Related Test Using Delta
LD260935 Moscow TASS in English 0846 GMT 26 Jan 88

[Text] Washington January 26 TASS—The United States is preparing yet another SDI-related test using an unmanned Delta rocket to yield data for use in the design of future anti-missile systems.

The DEFENSE NEWS paper which is close to military circles reports that a Delta rocket will be launched from Cape Canaveral next month and will lift into space a sensor module loaded with instruments to record a series of experiments involving 14 'test objects' which are designed to stimulate how an enemy rocket would behave in the midcourse environment.

The purpose of the test is to evaluate the capability of sensors to distinguish between false and true targets.

The newspaper emphasizes that the 250 million dollar experiment will be the second of several SDI missions planned by the Strategic Defense Initiative organization over the next several years. An exact date for the launch of the rocket and for the conduct of the test is not reported for secrecy considerations.

U.S. Binary CW 'Obstacle' to Disarmament
LD271745 Moscow TASS in English 1631 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 27 TASS—The lack of a political decision on the part of the U.S. leadership on a ban on chemical weapons and on excluding them from military arsenals is the most serious obstacle on the way to a

world free from this type of weapons of mass destruction, maintains Lieutenant General Anatoliy Kuntsevich, academician, a leading Soviet expert on chemical disarmament issues.

He describes the launching of binary weapons into production in the United States as another obstacle on the way.

In an interview with the MOSCOW NEWS weekly, General Kuntsevich examines the mutual interdependence of these negative factors. If there were a political solution to ban chemical weapons, he emphasizes, there would have been no program for chemical rearmament.

The Soviet expert recalled that by 1969 when the United States unwillingly, and not voluntarily, stopped the production of chemical weapons, it had already created a huge potential. According to unofficial estimates, U.S. stockpiles amount to 55,000-60,000 tons of toxic agents. There are no official data to this effect. They are a U.S. state secret which has not been declassified by Washington even after the Soviet Union made public data on its stocks of chemical weapons—up to 50,000 tons—in December last year.

To declare the chemical weapons existing in the United States to be obsolete, General Kuntsevich said, means deliberately to mislead the public opinion. Incidentally, he pointed out, in 1982 when the Reagan administration came forward with the idea of chemical rearmament, the thesis about the United States' lag or about "obsolescence" of American chemical weapons did not figure in Washington's official statements. At that time everything was said straightforwardly: For U.S. chemical potential to be high enough, it is essential to add a new quality. The "new quality" was associated with the production of binary munitions.

In the event of production of the weapons, the Soviet expert emphasized, even a superstringent verification may prove ineffective. The binary concept opens up an opportunity to work on chemical weapons in laboratories which are not only of traditional chemical specialisation but also in those of pharmaceutical or biochemical specialisation. The U.S. binary program torpedoes the entire process of chemical disarmament.

The Soviet Union, despite the step taken by the United States in departure from chemical disarmament, does not slacken its activity at the talks and follows the chosen course towards openness in military issues and towards the elimination of all types of weapons, including chemical ones.

The task of the Geneva conference on disarmament, at which a convention on a ban on and elimination of chemical weapons is being elaborated, comes to concentrating all attention on the final elaboration of a working text of the convention, General Kuntsevich said in conclusion. Political will and determination of all negotiators without exception are needed in this process in order to rid the world of the chemical threat.

U.S. 'Military Spending Erodes' Security

LD271910 Moscow TASS in English 1827 GMT 27 Jan 88

["Military Spending Erodes U.S. Security"—TASS headline]

[Text] Washington January 27 TASS—TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko reports:

During its stay in office the current U.S. Administration spent about 2,000 billion dollars for military purposes. This is reported by an American public organization, the Center for Defense Information. According to its estimates, the United States direct military expenditures from 1982 to the present made up 1,900 billion dollars. Besides that, over 57 billion dollars was spent on military programmes of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and on foreign military aid.

A survey compiled by the center emphasizes that the United States military expenditures, unprecedented for peacetime, largely surpass the military appropirations of all of the United States allies and the Soviet Union taken together. The United States spends nearly 743 million dollars for military purposes every day.

The lion's share of military appropriations goes for upgrading and build up of nuclear armaments. An attempt is made to justify this by care for the United States security. But this course, as the survey indicates, undermines the United States security far from promoting its consolidation since the threat of an outbreak of war with the use of nuclear armaments is enhanced with the build up of the arsenals of nuclear arms. The U.S. economy is also hugely damaged.

The authors of the research point out that chronic deficits of the federal budget which are largely a result of huge military expenditures led to a vast state debt. It is predicted that in the current financial year it will reach 2,600 billion dollars. The survey says that in order to cover the deficits of the federal budget the administration systematically takes loans abroad. As a result of this the United States which was the biggest creditor has become a major debtor. Vast military expenditures have also undermined the competitiveness of U.S. goods in world markets, since the war industry uses the most skillful work force and most up-to-date equipment. Therefore the deficit of the United States foreign trade rose from 40 billion dollars in 1980 to nearly 170 billion dollars in 1987, the survey says.

U.S. Senate Committee Considers INF Treaty

LD271833 Moscow TASS in English 1624 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Washington January 27 TASS—Hearings on the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles continued on Tuesday in the Senate Foreign Relations and Armed Services Committees. The treaty should be viewed not as an end result, but rather as an initial step toward creating a more secure and stable world, said U.S. chief negotiator at the Geneva talks Max Kampelman. He said that the treaty is fully backed by Western Europeans who are directly influenced by the treaty. He said he became aware of this when touring European countries. All European states, all major political parties, all political leaders, whether members of the NATO countries governments or not members of such governments strongly support the INF Treaty. The public opinion poll indicates that the overwhelming majority of Western Europeans back the agreement.

Touching upon the question of the prospects of the talks in Geneva, Kampelman noted that there exists an opportunity to reach agreement on stratetic offensive arms. He said both sides instructed their delegations to work toward concluding the drafting of such an agreement, if possible, and prepare it for the signing in the first half of 1988.

Shevardnadze Receives U.S. Ambassador

LD271522 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Comrade Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs, today received Matlock, the U.S. Ambassador in Moscow, at the latter's request.

During the conversation which took place, forthcoming Soviet-U.S. contacts at ministerial level and also certain specific bilateral questions were discussed.

Reagan Addresses Reserve Officers on Contra Aid

LD280202 Moscow TASS in English 2353 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Washington January 28 TASS—TASS correspondent Igor Ignatyev reports:

President Reagan, speaking at an annual conference of the U.S. Reserve Officers Association Wednesday, reported the main details of the administration's request for new funds on carrying on the undeclared war against Nicaragua, which is waged by Washington with the hands of the contras, its mercenaries.

Although White House officials claimed up to the last moment that the administration was studying all variants and had not made a final decision on the size and structure of the request for new aid to the contras, the President named the same figures which were reported Tuesday by Robert Michel, Republican minority leader in the House of Representatives.

It is utterly obvious that this deliberate "leak of information" was made to probe the ground in advance and learn the reaction in Congress to the main provisions of the White House request.

In an official legislative proposal, which was simultaneously sent Wednesday to Capital Hill, the administration asks 36 million dollars in aid to the contras. This is by far less than was initially planned by the administration which in September, 1987 announced the intention to press for 270 million dollars in contra aid. Considerate of the broad opposition in Congress to new funds for the contras at the point when the quest for ways to bring lasting peace is continued in Central America. The White House has correlated its plans putting the main stress on the so-called humanitarian aid.

Thirty two million dollars are requested for these ends. However, the course of the investigation into the "Iran-Contras" affair confirmed that the administration had used this "humanitarian aid" on more than one occasion in the past as a cover-up for military supplies to the counter-revolutionaries. Under the new request, it is envisaged to set aside 3.6 million dollars in military aid. These funds will go to acquire and ship "Redeye" anti-aircraft missiles and ammunition to the counter-revolutionaries.

In his speech President Reagan tried to prove for yet another time that Nicaragua presented a real threat to the whole of Central America. He repeated groundless charges against Managua alleging that the Sandinists did not comply with the Guatemalan accords. At the same time such an authoritative organisation as the Council for the Affairs of the Western Hemisphere points out that Nicaragua, possibly, has the best record of fulfilling these accords.

Congressman Tony Coelho, described the administration's request as a blow to the process of peaceful settlement in the region. In an ABC Television network interview he said that to ask new aid for the contras now was the same as to state to the presidents of five Central American countries that they were not trusted.

Democratic Congressman David Bonior described the White House request as a cynical proposal tailored to win votes in congress. He likened the administration request to a pistol pointed at the peaceful process.

Tumanov Interviewed on Work at Radio Liberty

LD270351 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 26 Jan 88

[Report on interview with Oleg Tumanov, former chief editor of Radio Liberty's Russian-language service, by Moscow radio correspondent (Oleg Vokolovskiy); date, place not given—read by announcers; first announcer summarizes (Vokolovskiy's) questions, second announcer summarizes Tumanov's answers]

[Text] [First announcer] Our correspondent, (Oleg Vokolovskiy), has interviewed Oleg Tumanov, a former chief editor of the Russian service of Radio Liberty. Tumanov was 20 years old when he defected to the West while in Libya 20 years ago. He returned home 2 years ago. In the interview, Tumanov discusses the Munich-based American radio station, which the CIA formed during the Cold War. Asked how his career at Radio Liberty began, Tumanov had this to say:

[Second announcer] The first 6 months, Tumanov said, I was with the Audience Research Section, which was led by (Max Rallie), an American intelligence man on the CIA payroll. Then I moved to another section to work under a certain (Yevgeniy Garanin). During the Second World War, he was the Vlassov Army's prosecutor.

[First announcer] Vlassov, by the way, is the former Soviet Army general who sided with Nazi Germany during the war. His name became the symbol of treachery, as the name of Quisling is for the Norwegians.

[Second announcer] It would seem, Tumanov went on to say, (Yevgeniy Garanin) would have been punished after the war as the prosecutor of Vlassov, but the Americans spared him, like they spared many other traitors and war criminals. (Garanin), as best he could, helped the American special services interrogate Soviet displaced people. He never tried to conceal at Munich that he'd been Vlassov's prosecutor, but he always pointed out what he termed an extenuating circumstance: The execution warrants he signed concerned only Communists, political officers, and Jews.

One more man at the Munich-based Radio Liberty is (Anatoliy Bublik), who is known to his colleagues as (Anatoliy Kruzhin). He used to be chief of Vlassov's bodyguards. He dreamed about establishing with sword and fire a new order, Nazi-style, on Russian soil. When I was at his place one day, Tumanov recalled, he showed me a large portrait of Adolf Hitler over his bed. People of this kind were and still are the leading journalists of Radio Liberty, a station that teaches the Soviet people how they should live and what values they should treasure.

[First announcer] Asked if he believed the West knew the truth about Radio Liberty, Oleg Tumanov said the following:

[Second announcer] Radio Liberty's activity is hushed up. Even if Western newsmen took an interest in it and wrote some material, Radio Liberty would buy it all to prevent any leakage of information. Small wonder! There were too many people at Radio Liberty who'd cooperated with Hitler during the Second World War. For example, if the American taxpayers learned who were the people they were supporting with their money, I don't think they'd be delighted. Radio Liberty was hushed up until 1973, when hearings began in Congress. At the time, some in the United States demanded closing the station. Nonetheless, Tumanov pointed out, Radio Liberty is still on the air. What has changed since then is the United States found a new front for it. The station is now led by a special council in charge of international radio broadcasting, but everything is the same: the people, the programs, and the CIA surveillance. Radio Liberty keeps following the traditions of the Cold War, despite any improvement in the international climate.

Gromyko Receives U.S. Businessman

LD271929 Moscow TASS in English 1905 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 27 TASS—Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the USSR Suprme Soviet, today received in the Kremlin George Soros, one of the biggest American financiers.

This businessmen from New York came to Moscow in connection with the meeting here of the joint committee of the Soviet Cultural Foundation and the Soros Foundation. George Soros was accompanied by the representative of the Soros Foundation in the joint committee Antonina Buis. The U.S. ambassador in the USSR Jack Matlock was also present.

Questions of developing business and cultural relations between the USSR and the United States and also their interconnection with foreign policy matters were discussed during the conversation.

George Soros said he was a champion of new thinking which has its supporters in the United States. He saw Mikhail Gorbachev's book "Perestroyka: New Thinking for Our Country and the World" not only in the hands of readers in the congressional library but also in the offices of many businessmen. The guest said tht the new thinking inspires Americans, makes them ponder how to advance into the future.

The foundation set up by him is designed to facilitate trips by Soviet people to the United States. In particular it is proposed to send international law specialists who could study relevant foreign practice both in the United States and in other countries.

This is only one of the ideas. The joint Soviet-American committee will decide concretely who to send, where and how. It is important that there should be funds for developing such contacts both in the field of business and culture.

Andrey Gromyko said that such activity merits attention but that a bridge should be built from theory to practice. Many statements about the need to develop proper ties have already been made both from the Soviet and from the American side and what wuch businessmen as George Soros are doing is a definite contribution to finding concrete ways of developing ties, including business ones, between the two countries. I must say with

regret that at present such ties between the USSR and the United States are living through a period of stagnation and this situation, of course, is abnormal, Andrey Gromyko said.

The political line pursued by the United States was the main obstacle to the development of economic and trade relations, Andrey Gromyko went on. Under its influence the business community scaled down trade and economic ties with the Soviet Union. If the obstacle to the development of trade which is not of our making is removed both countries will get new possibilities to develop it, he said.

The hope was expressed that on his return to New York George Soros will tell representatives of American business circles about the Soviet Union's readiness to develop extensive trade and economic ties with the Soviet Union. [sentence as received]

Do not think that we want to draw you into a discussion of political problems but one simply must have in mind that no architect yet exists who could erect a wall separating political problems from economic ones, Andrey Gromyko went on. This is illustrated by life itself. Such a major expert on international questions as the United States ambassador in Moscow probably can confirm this.

Jack Matlock agreed that there always exists a synthesis of political and economic problems.

George Soros remarked that it was being felt now that political problems were being solved to a certain extent.

You hint whereas I will call a spade a spade, Andrey Gromyko said. Indeed, a treaty has now been signed between the USSR and the United States on the liquidation of intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles. Dawn has appeared on the political horizon. The further development of the international situation will depend in many ways on our two countries. The Soviet Union believes that this treaty should be ratified while the talks in Geneva on the 50-per cent cut in strategic offensive arms should also lead to a positive outcome. What depends on us will be done and we would like the United States to act likewise.

This will also promote greater business ties between our countries, Andrey Gromyko went on. This will probably open up new possibilities also for the activity of the foundation set up by you in the name of developing contacts between the Soviet and American peoples.

It is good that you are making a practical contribution to the development of Soviet-American relations. It can be said now that holes have appeared in the political dam separating our countries and we hope tht this dam will be increasingly undermined.

The conversation passed in an informal and businesslike atmosphere.

CIA Estimates of Soviet Arms Spending

PM271733 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 22 Jan 88 First Edition p 5

[V. Peshcherskiy article under the rubric "Opponents of Ratification": "Former Intelligence Bosses Decode Old Secrets"]

[Text] Realistic observers in the West point out that the elimination of intermediate- and shorter-range missiles has finally moved from the realm of the abstract to the realm of concrete actions following the signing of the Soviet-U.S. treaty. However, it is no secret that the agreement still has to overcome the opposition of certain U.S. political forces in order to obtain the force of law.

One of the most active opponents of the treaty is the CIA and its partners in the U.S. intelligence community. For decades at least, the CIA has inundated the White House with reports deliberately overstating USSR arms expenditure. Why? In order to create an atmosphere of military psychosis and the sense of an imaginary U.S. "lag."

The special service devised its own methods of calculating USSR defense spending. For instance, its analysts defined Soviet armaments at U.S. prices in dollars, ignoring the differences in the structure of the USSR and U.S. Armed Forces. When they produced calculations for expenditure in rubles the prices they used as a baseline were for 1970, the year when they reached a maximum high. Professor F. Coleman of Tufts University (Massachusetts), writes in his book "Soviet Military Spending and the Numbers Game" that this sort of accounting has overstated Soviet defense spending by 30-50%.

The growth of mutual understanding between the USSR and the United States, the progress toward eliminating intermediate- and shorter-range missiles, and also the possible 50% reduction in strategic armaments have brought in their wake a change in CIA strategy and the emergence of new accents. The problem of the "impossibility of verifying" the destruction of Soviet SS-20 missiles has come to the fore.

Looking to the future, the CIA is now weighing up various versions of modernized "Soviet danger" myths attributing to the USSR fabricated intentions of rejecting the 50% reduction in strategic armaments.

However, for all its implacability toward the agreement on intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles, the special service's position is not so unassailable as it seems at first glance. The CIA has lost certain allies. Its new director, William Webster, has found himself in an ambiguous position: While stating the need for his department to continue its secret operations, at the same time he dissociated himself from the extremes allowed

under William Casey, which emerged in the course of the "Irangate" investigation. In an interview with NEWSWEEK, Webster was forced to admit that the information on which U.S. leaders based political decisions may often have been "incorrect." In other words, the CIA deliberately misled the U.S. Administration on highly important questions, notably disarmament, pursuing its own interests. As the old Eastern saying goes, in such cases it is unclear whether the dog is wagging the tail, or the tail the dog.

In the opinion of THE NEW YORK TIMES, the debate over CIA miscalculations, notably about the overstating of Soviet military expenditure, and also the possibility of disarmament verification may be politically explosive.

George Brown, Democrat representative from California, who recently quit the congressional Committee on Intelligence, said that he would like to be free from the obligation to maintain official secrecy and intends to criticize the intelligence service for its bias and for "living in the past." In Brown's opinion, the reconnaissance satellites being launched enable the United States to observe the "Soviet military activity."

This blow is probably especially painful for the CIA since it is struck by one of its own people.

Stansfield Turner has opposed the "traditional" views on disarmament of the intelligence community bosses. During his period as CIA director he, as is well-known, did much to propagate the myth of the "Soviet military threat," justifying U.S. militarization. Now Turner sings a different tune. According to him, the conclusion of the treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles will open the way for other similar agreements and will stimulate them. He has the following argument for his "skeptical" former colleagues: If the USSR begins to "engage in espionage" at inspection sites during the planned checks, the Americans "will respond in kind."

The former CIA director has been unable to totally rid himself of prejudice toward the Soviet Union, but even such a conservative figure as he is trying to think in a new way.

People in the CIA look askance at another "apostate" too—also a former U.S intelligence director: William Colby. He revised his views and openly opposed the morality and principles of the Langley headquarters. People in U.S. intelligence community circles consider Colby's greatest crime to be the fact that he "takes a sympathetic view of pacifists." When he left the CIA more than 10 years ago, Colby began to criticize the U.S. arms race. In his article "No Need To Site Dangerous MX Missiles" in THE LOS ANGELES TIMES, Colby indicates the ineffectiveness of the MX for U.S. defense. In his opinion, abandoning MX production would enable the United States to reduce the federal budget deficit, which has reached an astronomical figure, and would promote the resumption of arms control talks with the Soviet side. The article appeared in May 1984 during the proclamation of various "crusades" in the United States. This may be one of Colby's most accurate forecasts. If only he had displayed such perspicacity in CIA service!

Future CIA steps with regard to Soviet-U.S. accords will, of course, be determined by those who stand at the helm of the intelligence community in the United States, rather than by Turner and Colby. But it is also fair to say that pacifist views in the United States have gained a new fillip after the signing of the treaty, and the influence of people disillusioned with the arms race must not be underestimated.

The great magnetic pull of the new thinking is indicated by the emergence of sentiments in favor of disarmament among conservative forces, notably the U.S. special services. Anyone who intends to impede this process, whatever overt or covert means he may use, is doomed to failure.

Pentagon Awards Contract to Northrop Corp.

LD271034 Moscow Tass in English 1000 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Washington January 27 TASS—Northrop, one of the biggest U.S. military-industry corporations, has been awarded a Pentagon contract for work connected with the development of an advanced technology U.S. strategic bomber with the utilization of Stealth technology, a spokesman for the U.S. Air Force announced here on Tuesday.

The value of the contract is about two billion dollars. The Stealth project is top secret up to now, although reports have already appeared in the U.S. press that a Stealth fighter plane developed by the Lockheed Corporation already made test flights.

Up to now the Pentagon declines to reorganize the fact of the existence of such a combat aircraft.[sentence as received] Radar-absorbing materials are used in Stealth technology, which makes it possible to render aircraft virtually "invisible" to enemy radars.

The Air Force spokesman declined outright to say whether it was a question of building the first serial model of a B-2 bomber with the use of Stealth technology or of developing an experimental model. The Stealth bomber development efforts have been made since the middle of 1970s.

The United Press International (UPI) news agency recalls in this connection that the United States is planning to build 132 Stealth bombers with an aggregate cost of 36,200 million dollars. UPI points out that the U.S. Air Force already has available 30 to 50 F-19 fighter planes in the construction of which Stealth technology was utilized.

U.S. Has 'Double Standards' on Human Rights

LD272125 Moscow TASS in English 1954 GMT 27 JAN 88

["Washington's Double Standards"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow January 27 TASS—TASS News Analyst Yevgeniy Babenko writes:

It is very difficult to get cured of the habit of telling others what they should do. It is similar to smoking. Some people try to give up smoking time and again and still in vain. And then there are those who realise that this is harmful, also for those around them, but are in no haste to give up the habit.

Official Washington can be likened to a heavy smoker. It cannot give up its habit of trying to decide the destinies of other countries and peoples. And this despite the fact that it was pointed out to Washington more than once that this conduct is intolerable. One recalls last year's note of official protest of the Mexican Government to the U.S. Department of State to the effect that one country has no right to judge about human rights in another country. Other facts can be recalled.

Many things cause perplexity and give food for thought. For instance, the United States which tries to pose as a protector of human rights on a world scale flagrantly violates human rights at home. To this day the United States has not recognized either de-jure or de-facto the international covenant on civil and political rights and the international covenant on economic, social and cultural rights. Out of the 178 international documents related to human rights Washington has to-date signed and ratified just over 30.

And another circumstance of no little importance. Analysing Washington political realities one comes to the conclusion ever more often that U.S. politicians apply double standards to what happens in various parts of the world.

When Arab population in Israel-occupied Arab territories protests against outrages of the occupiers, this is obvious "violence" according to the U.S. ruling circles. But when Israeli soldiers beat up to death people in the West Bank of Jordan and Gaza Strip who went into the streets of their ghettoes, those, according to Washington, is "putting things in order."

And American politicians, one might think, have calm conscience of the just. Police brutalities with regard to freedom-loving Chileans in the centre of Santiago are passed off on the banks of the Potomac just as an "excess" of the Pinochet regime. Ah, these volatile South Americans. And when bandit units of contras destroy peaceful Nicaraguan villages this is presented as "actions of patriots" acting in the interests of the people.

Washington's double standards are also applied to other things. A dozen of citizens of the Jewish nationality who, out of consideration for USSR state secrets, are denied exist visas to Israel, gather, holding posters, at the entrance of the reception office of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. They are asked politely (I witnessed this myself) to give room on the walks for passers-by. And then Western correspondents accredited in Moscow get incensed and start writing about "most horrible forms of violence", about militia maltreating even young children of refuseniks.

One's blood runs cold on hearing various radio voices on the same day and reading transoceanic publications the next day. According to them a veritable massacre took place in Moscow. Such are double standards.

It is only Tel Aviv, and may be also Pretoria that can "put things in order in a democratic way," saving their dignity (that of occupiers). And Pretoria is not what it used to be, its apartheid no longer runs strong, the U.S. press laments. If things go on like this, there will be no one to emulate, no one to be proud of in that best and freest of all the conceivable worlds, the Western world.

U.S. Shuttle Launch Rescheduled for August

LD271030 Moscow TASS in English 0958 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] New York January 27 TASS—A new U.S. space shuttle launching is rescheduled for August 4. The U.S. ABC TV company learnt that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) took this decision despite the fact that in the recent past numerous defects were detected in solid fuel boosters and shuttle engines. According to the ABC, NASA believes that these problems are not serious enough to put off further the start which was initially scheduled for early June. The planned launching will be the first U.S. shuttle flight after the Challenger disaster, as a result of which the U.S. manned space flight programme was suspended for two years.

No 'Radical Changes' in U.S. Palestinian Stand

LD271652 Moscow TASS in English 1615 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 27 TASS—TASS Commentator Grigoriy Vasilyev writes:

The U.S. Department of State announced that two Palestinian leaders from the occupied territories are on the way to the United States and will be received by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. The secretary of state deems it important to know the viewpoint of Palestinians from occupied territories, a spokesman for the State Department said.

There is no doubt that this bow to Palestinians does not mean any radical changes in Washington's stand. It is based, as before, on the denial of the right to national

self-determination and creation of an independent state to Palestinian Arabs and unwillingness to treat the Palestine Liberation Organization as the sole authentic representative of the Palestinian people.

Meanwhile the real atmosphere in the Middle East indicates that the attempts to exclude the PLO from the process of the Middle East settlement doom to failure all efforts towards settlement, no matter who exerts them. The solution of the Palestinian problem which is the fundamental condition of the establishment of a truly fair and durable peace in the Middle East is unthinkable without the PLO participation. And they in Washington clearly do not want to take this into consideration. The administrations replacing one another invariably assumed pro-Israeli and anti-Palestinain stance. The United States has carried out also a number of actions unfriendly to Palestinians. Thus in the autumn of last year Washington announced the closure of the Palestinian information bureau, trying to justify that step by invented accusations against Palestinians of "involvement in terrorism."

The PLO is the recognized and proven leader of the Palestinians. Being in the lead of the Palestinians' courageous struggle for their inalienable rights, the organization earned prestige and respect in the internaitonal arena, proved its political maturity and showed its constructive approach to the quest for mutually-acceptable solutions in the Middle East. Washington's and Tel Aviv's stubborn striving to act in bypassing the PLO and actually behind the back of the Palestinian people only complicates the extremely tense situation in the region and makes prospects for a comprehensive Middle East settlement more remote.

Bilateral Agro-Industrial Cooperation Talks

LD261608 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0327 GMT 26 Jan 88

[Text] Washington, 26 Jan (TASS)—The eighth session of the joint Soviet-U.S. Commission for Scientific and Technical Cooperation in the sphere of the agro-industrial complex began in the U.S. capital on Monday [25 Jan]. The session, at which issues of mutual interest will be discussed, will last 2 days.

Before the session, a conversation took place between Ye. I. Sizenko, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Agroindustrial Committee, and Richard Lyng, U.S. secretary of agriculture; the latter then met the members of the Soviet delegation and wished them success in their work.

Cooperation Protocol Signed

LD270959 Moscow TASS in English 0649 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Washington January 27 TASS—The Soviet-U.S. commission for cooperation in agriculture ended its 8th session here Tuesday.

Later that day a protocol on a program for specialist exchanges and cooperation in farming was signed at the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Covering the years 1988 and 1989, it provides among other things, for studies of farming practices, including ways of increasing productivity in crop growing and animal husbandry, exchanges of seeds, direct contacts between institutes, and exchanges of experts.

It is planned to swap agricultural data and methods and study Soviet and U.S. experience in plant genetics and in water and soil conservation.

The protocol was signed by Soviet minister Yevgeniy Sizenko, first deputy chairman of the State Agri-Industrial Committee who led the delegation from the USSR, and Peter Meyers, U.S. deputy secretary of agriculture who led the American delegation.

Speaking at the ceremony, Sizenko said the session had taken place after the signature of a treaty to abolish a whole category of nuclear missiles, which was a historic step by the two countries to realizing mankind's dream of a world without fear of tomorrow.

He expressed confidence that the program would help develop bilateral cooperation to mutual advantage and build goodneighborly Soviet-U.S. relations.

Sizenko thanked the hosts for the warm reception and efficient organization.

Meyers said, for his part, that the program laid the basis for useful exchanges of specialists, which should lead to significant and mutually beneficial results.

He said the prospect of obtaining substantial scientific, technological and economic results was important, but the fact that the program offered a possibility for better mutual understanding between the people of the two countries was no less so.

The Soviet delegation later in the day left on a tour of the United States.

Emigre Discusses Problems of Life in U.S.

LD251401 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1143 GMT 25 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow, 25 January (TASS)—"Emigration is an abnormal human condition." This is what former Soviet citizen Vladimir Kozlovskiy, a free-lance BBC correspondent in New York, thinks. A conversation with him has been published in the weekly ARGUMENTS AND FACTS [ARGUMENTY I FAKTY].

Speaking about the situation of emigres in the United States, where Kozlovskiy has been living for 13 years, he noted that "foreign language, foreign food, foreign rights are not to everybody's liking, and not everyone can cope with them".

The majority of emigres, Kozlovskiy says, "lose their social status, and it is a great loss and source of various tragedies for many people." He is even surprised by the fact that "there are fewer cases of insanity or suicides than could be expected."

"They say that in the United States, taxi driver is the first emigre job and computer programmer is the second one. But I can imagine a doctor who enjoyed the respect of hundreds of patients, administration and colleagues, whereas in the United States he is requested to take an examination where he is asked many questions, the answers to which he need not know because they can be found in any reference book."

"When people ask me," Koslovskiy maintains, "whether to emigrate or not, I have not once said either yes or no. To be absolutely sincere, I have not the slightest idea."

Touching upon the moral side of the problem, former Soviet citizen (Reardon) states that according to his information "very many emigres get divorced. For many families, emigration is by no means a cementing factor. Usually it is the wife who abandons the husband. This is the way the family falls apart; not every family, but quite a high percentage. The reason is that, while in the Soviet Union the husband was the buttress of the family and stood on his own two feet, over there he is as much a beginner as everyone else. So either she goes looking for stability or else the cement holding together her relationship with her husband simply crumbles due to his change in status. There are no statistics on this, but it happens a lot."

China

U.S. Secret List Labels China 'Hostile State'

PM281018 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Jan 88 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report under the rubric "Events, Facts": "China"]

[Text] TASS, 27 Jan—The Chinese Government has drawn attention to a Western press report that China is on a secret U.S. Defense Department list as a "hostile state." This was stated by a PRC Foreign Ministry spokesman at a press conference in Beijing. He said that it is contrary to numerous official statements by the U.S. Government.

Ivavov Hails Development of Mutual Cooperation

OW270220 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1500 GMT 21 Jan 88

[Ivanov commentary]

[Excerpts] The Soviet delegation to the first meeting of the contact and cooperation work group of the Soviet and Chinese planning committees directly under the Soviet-Chinese Economic, Trade, Scientific, and Technological Cooperation Committee has returned to Moscow after attending the group's first meeting in Beijing. The Soviet delegation met Chinese Vice Premiers Yao Yilin and Tian Jiyun in Beijing. Both sides expressed the desire to exchange experience acquired in economic reform and further develop mutually beneficial cooperation. Our station observer Ivanov has the following comments:

People in the Soviet Union and China are happy to point out that recently various ties between the two countries have developed more rapidly. The development of Soviet-Chinese cooperation has good foundations. Tremendous possibilities also exist. Replying to a LIAOWANG reporter's questions, Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, pointed out: We are deeply interested in China's economic and political reform. Comrade Gorbachev emphatically noted: Both the Soviet Union and China have solved similar problems. [passage omitted]

A resolution to establish a permanent contact and cooperation work group under the Soviet and Chinese planning committees was approved at the meeting of the Soviet-Chinese Economic, Trade and Scientific and Technological Cooperation Committee last May. The resolution included exchanging visits by delegations of the State Planning Commissions of both countries. Last fall a Chinese State Planning Commission delegation visited Moscow and learned extensively how the Soviet national economic plan was carried out. It studied questions of interest to China and introduced Chinese experiences in the Soviet Union. [passage omitted]

Currently our cooperation in the important sphere of socialist construction is developing at a new, higher stage. Contacts in many fields between our two countries and peoples not only are in the interests of the Soviet Union and China, but also benefit international socialism and world peace.

Soviet-Chinese Trade Develops Smoothly

OW270024 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0600 GMT 21 Jan 88

[Excerpts] Listeners, Soviet-Chinese trade has developed smoothly in recent years. This is an important factor in improving Soviet-Chinese relations and also helps expand cooperation between the countries in other

fields. The two countries' current trade volume is about R2 billion, or about 5 billion Swiss francs according to the exchange rate agreed upon between our two countries.

Machinery, equipment, and means of transport account for about half of the total value of Soviet exports to China. Our country also exports important raw materials, building materials, chemical fertilizer, and household electrical appliances to China. We import necessary raw materials, non-ferrous metals, ore concentrates, ores, consumer goods, and agricultural products from China. Trade is mutually beneficial. Recent border trade between our two countries has remarkably benefited both sides. For instance, the Kazakh SSR and the Central Asian republics are rapidly developing trade with China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. Both sides have held export fairs and signed barter contracts. [passage omitted]

China has some trade deficits with the Soviet Union. Since border trade should be absolutely equal in value, the two sides have agreed to continue to hold talks on reducing China's trade deficit. A few days ago a Chinese trade delegation has arrived in our country to attend the talks. The delegation is headed by Comrade (He Xinglu), deputy manager of the Xinjiang Uigur Autonomous Regional Import-Export Company. [passage omitted]

Popov Cited; Praises Deng Xiaoping's Concept
OW271339 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1500 GMT 20 Jan 88

[Text] The Collected Works of Deng Xiaoping, recently published in the Soviet Union, has attracted the attention of people of all walks of life there. The following is an article published in MOSCOW NEWS on this work by Popov, a famous Soviet scholar and commentator:

Popov writes: We have read reports about the overall situation of the reform in China. The first thing we feel is the great strength of Marxism. In a country far away from the European origin of Marxism, the people of China, who account for one-fourth of the world's total population, are using this doctrine to solve their problems some 100 years after the works of Marx and Engels were published. Deng Xiaoping's formulas—socialism with Chinese characteristics and the integration of the universal truth of Marxism with China's realities—are completely correct. If we replace the word China with the Soviet Union, Hungary, or Poland, and construe the word realities to include the current realities as well as past traditions of these countries and their peoples, then considering the realities not only becomes a component part of the universal truth of Marxism, but also a tool for creatively developing the truth.

Soviet commentator Popov writes: With this viewpoint, I think that the experience of Chinese communists is of special significance in understanding the universal truth of reform. First of all, I would like to discuss the system of contracted responsibilities of households in China. The system has answered the question of how to enhance the enthusiasm of millions of working people and how to turn them into the true masters of social wealth in the present stage. The system of contracted responsibilities of households in China has invigorated agricultural production in a surprisingly short time, solved the problem of feeding 1 billion people, and, on this basis, extended to other economic sectors. In studying China's philosophy and history, I have long found that to the Chinese people, families are like [word indistinct]. This is very important to West Europeans, (?to communes) and to the Slavs.

The Chinese communists have made contributions because they have properly integrated socialist principles with China's basic traditions and with families. Another question which Deng Xiaoping is concerned about is the development of the party and the political system in the course of reform. At first, China put great emphasis on the role of cadres, but it found later that problems exist not only in [word indistinct], but also in the mechanism of the party and the political leadership.

In the last article of the collected works, Deng Xiaoping says: In last few days, the Central Committee has been considering how to accelerate the reform. Now we have put forward a new question: the question of how to reform the political structure.

Vietnam's Troop Withdrawal From Cambodia Viewed
OW280627 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1500 GMT 26 Jan 88

[Petrov commentary from the "Current Events and Commentaries" program]

[Text] Listeners, Vietnam has committed itself to withdrawing its volunteer troops from Cambodian territory at the earliest date possible. Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee, recently pointed this out at a meeting with a group of Japanese reporters in Ho Chi Minh City. This station's observer, Petrov, comments on this:

The Vietnamese leader's statement has put an end to rumors about Vietnamese volunteers which appear in Western newspapers. These rumors originated from a broadcast of the Pol Pot clique's radio station. Before the second-round meeting between Hun Sen, chief of the government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea [PRK], and Prince Sihanouk, the radio station asserted that Vietnam intended to keep its troops in Cambodia indefinitely.

Why did Pol Pot and his ilk spread such rumors? The reasons are quite clear. When the whole world was welcoming dialogue between the PRK Government and the Cambodian opposition factions, they wanted to find an excuse for their refusal to take part in efforts to settle politically the Cambodian conflict. In addition, the

Khmer clique tried to dissuade Prince Sihanouk from holding direct dialogue with Phnom Penh. They failed. The annoyed prince told Hun Sen that he was willing to discuss matters concerning a settlement of the Cambodian issue even if other opposition factions did not want to participate. He also proposed that a provisional bilateral Cambodian government be formed by representatives of the PRK and the Sihanouk group.

As to Vietnam's position, the Hun Sen-Sihanouk meeting indicated that it had not changed. The fact is that the Cambodian premier submitted a proposed timetable for the withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops from Cambodia. The proposed timetable, jointly drawn up by the PRK and Hanoi, stipulates that Vietnamese troops will be completely withdrawn from Cambodia within 24 months after the parties concerned in Cambodia reach agreement on settling their conflicts.

A few years ago the Vietnamese and Cambodian governments set a 1990 deadline for the withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops. The statement of the general secretary of the CPV Central Committee and the remarks by Hun Sen show that Cambodia and Vietnam are willing to complete the task ahead of schedule. Now that Vietnam and Cambodia have shown their good will, the opposition should do its bit. All the world's people know that the Vietnamese volunteer troops have fought against armed bandits and protected the Cambodian people. These volunteers will withdraw very soon after these armed bandits are disbanded and when the security of Cambodia is no longer threatened.

Northeast Asia

DPRK Responds, Retaliates to U.S. Sanctions

PM271629 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Jan 88 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Behind the Sabotage. Under Washington's Thumb"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 26 Jan—On behalf of the entire Korean people we resolutely condemn the U.S. actions as a serious provocation designed to blacken our republic's international prestige and exacerbate the situation on the Korean peninsula.

This is stressed in a statement published here by a DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman in connection with the U.S. sanctions against the DPRK announced on the pretext of its alleged complicity in the disappearance of a South Korean airliner in November 1987.

The document points out that the DPRK has no relation with this incident, which is a "performance enacted by the South Korean puppets with direct U.S. participation."

The DPRK Foreign Ministry draws attention to the fact that the United States has been occupying half of Korea for more than 40 years and resorts to terror and assassination. It was the United States which was the underhanded orchestrator of the tragedy in Kwangju which even today remains in South Koreans' memories.

The incident involving the South Korean airliner is a link in the Washington-inspired provocative preparations to blow up the aircraft on which the South Korean foreign minister will be flying this May on a visit to Japan, the statement points out. The United States intends to use the explosion of this plane to unleash military operations against the DPRK.

"We do, of course, think that Korean-U.S. relations must be improved for the peaceful resolution of the Korean question but we do not intend to beg the United States to resolve this problem," the document says. The United States has caused the DPRK suffering both historically and also in the light of the recent incident involving the South Korean aircraft.

By way of retaliatory measures, as of 1 February 1988 the DPRK will break off all contacts with U.S. diplomatic representatives, will forbid U.S. citizens to enter the country, and will not hold talks with the United States regarding the remains of Americans who died during the war in Korea. The DPRK has urged the governments and the peoples of all countries who value the cause of peace to instigate proceedings against the United States in the International Court on charges of international terrorism and aggression in Korea, the statement points out.

The DPRK Foreign Ministry demands that the United States and South Korea cease actions exacerbating the conflict between North and South and the situation on the Korean peninsula. The United States must withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea.

In connection with the discriminatory sanctions against the DPRK announced by the Japanese Government, the DPRK Foreign Ministry statement says that the Japanese authorities are under the thumb of the United States and are acting contrary to their own interests. The campaign against the DPRK will never bring them any good.

In conclusion the document expresses confidence that the peoples of all countries will invariably express solidarity with the just struggle of the Korean people for the peaceful reunification of Korea.

U.S. Troop Withdrawal From Korea Rumored

SK240348 Moscow International Service in Korean 0930 GMT 22 Jan 88

[Station military commentator Colonel (Asatrov) commentary]

[Text] Some time ago, Kurihara, Director General of Japan Defense Agency, met with Admiral Hays, commander of U.S. forces in Pacific and Indian Ocean

district. During this meeting, he discussed the issue of the U.S. forces in South Korea, as well as other issues.

In this hour, we would like to broadcast a commentary concerning this by Colonel (Asatrov), military commentator of this radio station.

Kurihara and Hays discussed the prospect of the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Korea. When high-ranking military leaders reviewed the reduced military budget, they suggested that keeping U.S. forces in South Korea was a great material burden. They also noted that compared to 600,000 South Korean troops, 41,000 U.S. troops are insignificant and that continuously maintaining U.S. troops there is not reasonable.

They also expressed their opinion that because (?modernization) has reached a high standard, South Korea is no longer in need of U.S. protection as in the past.

A U.S. research organization gave clear-cut advice to the U.S. Government to withdraw U.S. troops from South Korea over the next 5 years. This organization noted that such a step would exercise a good influence over political developments in this area.

We cannot but agree with this opinion. Such an opinion is reasonable at a time when the military and political trend of the world is advancing toward detente and the theory of affirmatively handling situations should be applied to the Asian-Pacific area, and particularly to the Korean peninsula.

As is known, South Korea and the DPRK militarily confront each other on the Korean peninsula and U.S. nuclear weapons are deployed there. In talks with the Director General of the Japan Defense Agency, U.S. Admiral Hays clearly expressed his view on the issue of withdrawing U.S. troops from South Korea. Admiral Hays did not deny the possibility of change taking place in the future in the domain of long-range military cooperation between the United States and South Korea. However, he stated that now is not the time to discuss this issue.

Despite the clear remark that now is not the time, Japan seems to feel uneasy, as ASAHI SHIMBUN indicated, with the possibility of reducing the 41,000 U.S. forces in South Korea or withdrawing them. Why does Japan abruptly feel so uneasy or why is it so concerned with a rumor which is totally groundless? The question is that the Pentagon and the Japan Defense Agency are attempting to use even the trend toward detente as an excuse for strengthening the war preparations. Thus, Washington's call for increasing nuclear weapons in the Pacific area in the near future would not be an unexpected event. The South Korean Armed Forces may be increased on the pretext of an unexpected withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea. Japan seriously stressed the need to strengthen the defense not only of Hokkaido, an island neighboring the Soviet Sakhalin Island, but also Kyushu, an eastern island on the Korean Straits.

This means to Japan that if the U.S. forces are actually withdrawn from South Korea, Kyushu would face a certain threat. Voices calling for the withdrawal of U.S. forces from South Korea have often been raised in the past. However, they were merely empty words and no practical steps were taken.

Then, why are such voices raised again today? The demand for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea has been strongly put forward in South Korea and such voices may be designed to appease the anti-U.S. sentiment in South Korea, even to a slight degree.

However, the Korean issue cannot resolved simply with empty words. What could serve as a foundation to relax tension on the Korean peninsula is the realistic proposals made by the DPRK. It was People's Korea that appealed for the reduction of the armed forces of both sides, not South Korea.

The DPRK unilaterally cut its troops by 100,000. What is needed in seeking measures to peacefully resolve all problems of the Korean peninsula is talks between all the parties concerned [modun yugwanchukdului hoedam] and equal dialogue. The DPRK appealed to the United States to conclude a peace agreement and to withdraw U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea. Such an appeal is a practical method for reducing armed forces on the Korean peninsula, for relaxing tension and for eliminating the danger of military clashes.

Ryzhkov Greets Joint Economic Meeting in Japan

LD271246 Moscow TASS in English 1220 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 27 TASS—Follows full text of a message of greetings sent by Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, to the participants in the eleventh joint meeting of the Soviet-Japanese and Japanese-Soviet committees for economic cooperation.

"I warmly greet the participants in the regular, eleventh, joint meeting of the Soviet-Japanese and Japanese-Soviet committees for economic cooperation.

"The Soviet Union in its relations with Japan consistently pursues a policy of building confidence and good-neighbourliness and giving greater scope to mutually beneficial cooperation free from discrimination and restrictions in all fields, including that in the economic sphere. In this connection we positively evaluate the activities of the Soviet-Japanese and Japanese-Soviet committees for economic cooperation, which make a marked contribution to the development of trade-and-economic relations between our two countries.

"Joint meetings of the committees became important forums at which topical problems of Soviet-Japanese economic relations are considered. In the process of years-long cooperation the committees have gained a considerable positive experience in widening business contacts, including those in the realisation of a whole number of large-scale projects. This convincingly shows that the sides can achieve practical results in the cause of developing mutually beneficial cooperation provided there are goodwill and mutual efforts.

"The present meeting in Tokyo is being held at a time when reassuring prospects for an improvement of the international situation have emerged and when real opportunities to remove the threat of a nuclear catastrophe are opening up before mankind for the first time. The recently signed Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles raises the level of security and moulds a more favourable political climate in the world. This also creates good prerequisites for further expansion of trade-and-economic, scientific and technical cooperation between countries including that [as received] the Soviet Union and Japan.

"We are in favour of using to the full the existing big potential of Soviet-Japanese trade-and-economic relations, and utilising their new forms more actively. In our view, the development of production coordination, the establishment of joint-venture enterprises and wider cooperation in the scientific and technical field would accord with these goals. The Soviet side would welcome active participation of the Japanese business community in the realisation of the long-term state program, adopted in the Soviet Union, for the development of the productive forces of the Far Eastern economic region in the period ending in the year 2000.

"I wish successful work to the participants in the eleventh Soviet-Japanese economic meeting. I am confident that further development of economic contacts will serve the cause of strengthening mutual understanding and goodneighbourliness between the peoples of our two countries."

Japan's Claim on Kuriles 'Stumbling Block'

LD262316 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 26 Jan 88

[Boris Andrianov commentary]

[Text] [Announcer] In reports from Tokyo, Western news agencies devote attention to the program speech made at the parliament session by Japanese Prime Minister Takeshita. He stated in particular his cabinet's intention to try to achieve changes for the better in Japanese-Soviet relations and to make efforts to establish goodneighborly bilateral relations. However, just like his predecessors, Takeshita made the development of stable relations between Japan and the USSR conditional on Tokyo's territorial claims against the Soviet Union being satisfied. Here is a latest news commentary. Boris Andrianov is at the microphone.

[Andrianov] Expounding in such a form his conditions for the development of Japanese-Soviet relations, Prime Minister Takeshita attempted to make it appear as though some territorial problem exists between the Soviet Union and Japan. It is alledgedly this that prevents normal mutual ties from being established. Therefore, one only has to solve it for things to go well at once. What does official Tokyo have in mind specifically?

In accordance with its technology, the so-called problem of the northern territories, or, more precisely, Japan's claim to the southern islands of the Kurile ridge, which belong to the Soviet Union, is the stumbling block. They have been declared long-standing Japanese territory which our country is allegedly illegally holding. In order to support this spurious version, the Japanese Government officially declared 7 February the Day of the Northern Territories. On that day, all kinds of public actions are staged with the demand that the captured lands should be returned. Behind this is concealed the striving to revise the results of World War II that were enshrined in international documents. After all, the Kurile Islands were returned to the Soviet Union fully in accordance with the Cairo Declaration and other joint documents that were signed by the allies who had fought against fascist Germany and militarist Japan. The decisions enshrined in them were confirmed by the Potsdam Declaration where, by the way, the conditions under which the Far Eastern Empire was to capitulate were laid down. These conditions were accepted, unconditionally. On 2 September 1945 in Tokyo Bay aboard the battleship "Missouri," Japan's plenipotentiary representatives signed the Act of Capitulation.

It is perhaps worthwhile recalling that point number six of this document runs as follows: With this document we give the pledge that the Japanese Government and its successor will honestly carry out the conditions of the Potsdam Declaration. Finally, to this one has to add that under a separate peace treaty signed in San Francisco on 8 September 1951, Japan renounced all rights, grounds in law, and claims to the Kurile islands. All this is very well known in Tokyo. Nevertheless, there advanced the version of the existence of a territorial problem.

This was done when the talks were held that preceded the conclusion of the 1956 joint declaration on the cessation of the state of war between both states and on the restoration of diplomatic relations between them. At that time, the Soviet side, together with the Japanese side, examined all of Tokyo's arguments closely and in-depth and considered them to be untenable. It was this that gave rise to the formulation that there exists no territorial problem in the interrelations between the

Soviet Union and Japan. Attempts to dispute this truth can be dictated only by the unwillingness to see radical positive changes in Japanese-Soviet relations.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

PRK Foreign Minister Hun Sen Departs Moscow

LD271939 Moscow TASS in English 1525 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 27 TASS—Hun Sen, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, left Moscow for home today.

PRK Leaders Send Thanks for Jubilee Greetings

PM271017 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jan 88 Second Edition p 1

[PRK leadership bodies' message of thanks to USSR leaders]

[Text] To Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee,

Comrade A.A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium,

Comrade N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers,

Esteemed Comrades!

The Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP] Central Committee, the PRK State Council and Council of Ministers, and the entire Cambodian people express to you and through you to the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers, and the entire fraternal Soviet people sincere gratitude for the cordial congratulations on the 9th anniversary of the PRK's national holiday.

We have been following with unwavering attention the process of the restructuring of Soviet society and fully support the CPSU's policy. The USSR's consistent initiatives on the elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000, the prevention of the militarization of space, and the creation of an all-embracing system of international security are an expression of the new thinking which is becoming established in international politics and of the highly moral approach to the task of building a world free of violence.

Allow us to express our profound gratitude for the moral and material assistance given by the Soviet Union for the purpose of normalizing the situation in Cambodia and also for the USSR's diplomatic efforts aimed at finding a just solution to the Cambodian problem and other regional problems.

We are firmly convinced that the relations of friendship and fraternal solidarity between our parties will continue to develop on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism and will be strengthened in the joint struggle for peace and socialism in the interests of our countries and peoples.

We wish the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers, and the entire fraternal Soviet people new successes in implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee January and June (1987) Plenums for the good of socialism and of peace throughout the world.

The KPRP Central Committee

The PRK State Council

The PRK Council of Ministers

SRV TV Problems, Cooperation Plans Outlined

LD272020 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1530 GMT on 27 January, in its "Vremya" newscast, carries a 2-minute report by Hanoi correspondent Leonid Krichevskiy on Vietnam's television service. Krichevskiy begins by noting that the Vietnamese television service is going through a period of stagnation. Considerable difficulties exist, he says, with a shortage of modern equipment, qualified workers, and television centers. But, he continues, the Vietnamese mass media have now actively joined the struggle for renewal in all spheres of life and they stand decisively against negative phenomena.

The video shows the interior of a television studio and then cuts to an interview with Nguyen Van Han, director general of Vietnam's general television, who speaks in Vietnamese with a superimposed Russian translation. He says: Our television is now focusing great attention on topics which we tried to avoid before, which we bypassed and kept silent about. For example, the standard of living of our population, the shortage of foodstuffs, and the increasing gap between low wages and rising prices of basic goods. Glasnost is much sharper than before, Van Han continues. We criticize those enterprises and establishments which work badly and those managers who do nothing to put this situation right.

Krichevskiy goes on to point out that Vietnamese television widely uses material from the Soviet television programs "Vremya" and "120 Minutes". On 27 January, he notes, agreements and working protocols on cooperation between Soviet and Vietnamese television and radio were signed in Hanoi. There are plans for the exchange of television and radio programs, the joint production of television films, and radio and television bridges are under preparation. The USSR Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting will also provide the

Vietnamese with cadre training and will improve their professional skills, he adds. The video concludes by showing unidentified officials signing documents.

Near East & South Asia

Envoy to Tehran on Iran Ties, Afghanistan, Gulf

LD271744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] On the eve of the 11th session of the joint commission on cooperation between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Soviet Union, the Soviet ambassador in Tehran took part in a press, radio, and television interview. During this interview, Soviet Ambassador Gudev noted the desire for bilateral diplomatic and political relations to be strengthened along with economic ties. He added: During the past 18 months, the volume of bilateral trade has risen to twice the 1986 level. Tomorrow a delegation from the Soviet Union will arrive in Tehran to participate in the 11th session of the joint cooperation commission.

The ambassador expressed his hope for an expansion of cooperation between Iran and the Soviet Union in various areas. Commenting on the presence of U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf, he asserted: The presence of U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf does not contribute toward finding a solution. It makes matters worse and undermines UN Security Council Resolution 598, Clause 5.

Regarding U.S. efforts to impose an arms embargo on Iran, the Soviet ambassador referred to the fact that in 1980, when imperialism was trying to enforce an economic embargo on Iran, the Soviet Union prevented that action. He stressed: The Soviet Union still follows this principled policy. In connection with the latest developments on Afghanistan, he stated: In February, the last round of negotiations will be held in Geneva with the participation of Afghan and Pakistani representatives. We hope that on this date an agreement for the withdrawal of forces will also be signed.

IRNA Report

LD271854 Tehran IRNA in English 1841 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 27, IRNA—Soviet Ambassador to Tehran Vladimir Gudev explained Moscow's stance on Iran-Soviet relations, Persian Gulf crisis, Security Council resolution and the Afghan issue, at a press conference here today.

Gudev referring to Tehran-Moscow economic ties said the Soviet Union seeks to expand and strengthen relations with its southern neighbour Iran, because, he added, political relations without taking economic issues and trade exchanges into consideration cannot remain stable.

The two countries increased volume of bilateral trade exchanges to a certain extent during the last twelve months, said the Soviet ambassador adding, the increase in 1987 was two-fold as compared to the preceding year.

He noted that the two countries linked agreements in several fields including oil exploration in the southern Caspian Sea, establishment of a joint shipping line in the Caspian, resumption of Aeroflot flights to Tehran, developing Esfahan steel mills and construction and expansion of power generators in Iran.

On exchange of crude oil with refined oil products between Iran and the Soviet Union, Gudev said such cooperation would certainly help promote mutual ties because Iran needs oil products while the Soviets have vast facilities for refining oil in southern provinces bordering the Islamic Republic.

Elsewhere he commented on Moscow's stance toward the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 and Persian Gulf isues, saying his country has called for an end to the Iraqi-imposed war through political means and that Soviet support for passing the resolution has been in this regard "on condition that such efforts do not harm the Islamic Republic of Iran."

U.S. intervention in the region is against Article Five of the resolution and only helps to heighten the tension, said Gudev. The Soviet proposal for a multi-national force to maintain shipping security in the Persian Gulf faced with a vast but incoordinated reaction in the world, he said.

In response to a question as to how Soviet Union as Iraq's major arms supplier calls for an end to the war through negotiations, he merely said: "If I were not in Iran now, perhaps I would take the time to answer the question, but such propositions are not necessary at the moment."

When a reporter questioning the ambiguity of the Soviet position, asked why Moscow has not condemned the Iraqi aggression on Iran, the Soviet ambassador tried to be rather evasive and repeated that his country has called for an end to the war through political means since its very beginning.

On the Soviet stance towards the Palestinian uprising, Gudev said Moscow's position is completely clear in this regard because "we are opposed to Israel's aggressive measures."

On the Afghan issue he made it clear that Moscow is for withdrawal of its forces from Afghanistan and opposes any foreign interference in that country. Talks between Pakistan and the Kabul Government are to be held in Geneva next month and Moscow believes that this would be the last round of the negotiations.

In conclusion Gudev referred to the role of the Islamic Republic in Afghanistan and stressed that if Iran takes part in Afghan talks and uses its influence for settlement of the issue, "we would welcome the measure, otherwise a special situation may emerge making the participation of all concerned sides except Iran not to the benefit of the Islamic Rpeublic."

Meanwhile, head of the economic section at the Soviet Embassy here Viktor I. Barissov who was also at the press conference referred to Tehran-Moscow talks and announced that an expert Soviet delegation will arrive here Thursday to make preparations for the 11th joint economic commission meeting of the two countries which is to be held in Moscow in the coming weeks.

Barissov said officials of the two countries are to discuss establishment of an alumina factory, exploration of color metals, expansion of steel mills and power generators as well as other fields of mutual interests in their talks.

He also disclosed that a Soviet supply ship is now anchored at the northern Iranian port of Anzali [name as received] and will be despatched to a spot determined by the Iranian Oil Ministry, for oil exploration in the Caspian Sea. Preliminary works according to an already-linked accord should be completed in six months time, Barissov concluded.

Syria, CSSR Call for End to Gulf War

LD271955 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1813 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Damascus, 27 Jan (TASS)—Syria and Czechoslovakia have a high regard for the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, signed between the USSR and the United States, and believe that this step indicates new political thinking in international relations. Both countries noted the need for a continuation of the disarmament process. This is stated in the communique, published here today, on the results of the working visit paid to the Syrian Arab Republic [SAR] by the Czechoslovak party delegation led by Vasil Bilak, member of the Presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, and on its talks with a delegation from the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

The document stresses the need for complete elimination of nuclear weapons throughout the world and for an end to the arms race. The sides commended the Soviet Union's policy in this area and declared their support for the peace-loving Soviet initiatives.

Having discussed the Middle East problem, the Syrian and Czechoslovak delegations confirmed that a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in the region cannot be established without the total liberation of all Israeli-occupied Arab lands, including the Arab sector of Jerusalem, and without the granting of national rights to the Arab people of Palestine, as called for by UN resolutions. Syria and Czechoslovakia support the idea of convening, under UN auspices, an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of the permanent members of the UN Security Council and all interested sides, including the PLO.

The SAR and the CSSR declared their support for the uprising by the Palestinian people in the seized Arab territories, pointing out that the uprising amounts to a further indication of Palestinian rejection of Israeli occupation.

The sides supported the Lebanese people's struggle against the Israeli occupiers and stated that Lebanon's internal problems can only be solved through the attainment of national concord in the country on the basis of the preservation of Lebanon's unity, independence, sovereignty, and security.

Syria and Czechoslovakia expressed concern at the continuation of the armed conflict between Iran and Iraq, and declared the need for its end as soon as possible by means of peace talks. They called for the withdrawal of all foreign warships from the Persian Gulf and for ensuring freedom of navigation for all countries.

The Syrian and Czechoslovak delegations voiced satisfaction with the firm, friendly relations existing between the two countries, parties, and peoples, and confirmed their mutual desire for their further development.

The representatives of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the CPCZ signed a new agreement on cooperation between the two parties for 1988-89.

PFLP's Habash Interviewed on Palestinian Unrest

PM280853 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jan 88 Second Edition p 5

[Interview with G. Habash, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, by PRAVDA own correspondent Yu. Glukhov under the "Our Interviews" rubric: "Blaze of Opposition"; in Damascus, date of interview not specified; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] Yu. Glukhov, PRAVDA own correspondent in the Near East, met in Damascus with G. Habash, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], and asked him to assess the events taking place in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories.

The rule is, G. Habash said, that every action produces an opposite reaction. Palestinian opposition was a natural reaction to the Israeli occupation, because occupation means an extreme degree of injustice—political, economic, and social. Its oppression has already lasted for decades. The confiscation of land, destruction of national institutions, pogroms, arrests, imprisonment—this is what the Palestinians are up against every day in the occupied territories.

Even according to Tel Aviv's statistics, the PFLP leader continued, 350,000 Palestinians have passed through Israeli jails during these years. And now approximately 7,000 political prisoners are in captivity.

Thus, the occupation has aggravated the situation to the breaking point. Objective conditions fomented the outbreak of revolt. The last spark was the incident in Gaza when the Israeli occupiers ran over four Palestinians in an army truck. The revolt assumed a nationwide character. But this does not mean, G. Habash pointed out, that it was not organized, although, to be honest, it was difficult to imagine that it would reach such a scale.

The activity of the PLO is an important factor in the course of events. Its activists are operating everywhere—in Gaza, the West Bank of the Jordan, and East Jerusalem. Their numbers have increased.

We have always considered the struggle in the occupied territories, G. Habash pointed out, to be the main task. It became of paramount importance particularly after the Palestinian leadership and fighters left Beirut in 1982. I must say that the present upsurge in the struggle is directly associated with the restoration of unity in the PLO ranks which took place last year in Algiers.

The decisions of the Arab summit conference in Amman have had a definite impact on the actions of the Palestinian masses. The point is, my interlocutor continued, that the Palestinian problem was always "number one" for the Arabs, but it was relegated to the background at the Amman conference. Despite the positive character of some of its decisions, particularly its decision to support the convocation of an international conference on the Near East and confirm the role of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, there was no mention, for instance, of the creation of an independent Palestinian state. And this is exceptionally important under the specific conditions in question. For only by obtaining statehood can we talk about unification and about the creation of a Palestinian-Jordanian confederation. In this connection the stormy actions on the occupied territories are a graphic demonstration of the sentiments and demands of the Palestinian people.

Western propaganda, G. Habash then pointed out, exaggerates the role of the so-called Islamic factor in the disturbances in the occupied territories. People put a religious slant on the Palestinian national liberation movement, thus distorting the essence of events. But it is in fact a broad popular uprising. Its participants and initiators include such organizations as Fatah, the PFLP, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Palestinian Communist Party, and others. There is also an Islamic patriotic wing represented in the ranks of active fighters. But, unfortunately, there are also people in Muslim circles who cooperate with the Israeli occupiers and also those who join reactionary Arab circles to undermine the Arab national liberation movement like, for instance, the "Muslim Brotherhood."

The PFLP leader said that the nature of the uprising must be judged by its goals. Some of them are concrete. They include the release of all those arrested during the events, the end of the siege of Palestinian camps, the bringing to trial of the Israeli aggressors who have executed members of the peaceful population, and so on. But broad political tasks have also been put forward, such as the urgent convocation of an international conference on the Near East, the implementation of the rights of Palestinians to the creation of their own state, support for the PLO, and the strengthening of Arab and international solidarity with the just cause of the Palestinian people.

The message from M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, constituted important moral support for our struggle, G. Habash said in conclusion. For our enemies are Israel, international Zionism, and world imperialism. The strengthening alliance with the Arab national liberation movement and socialist countries headed by the Soviet Union must oppose the alliance of these forces.

East Europe

GDR's Fischer Makes Official Visit

Shevardnaze Hosts Dinner

PM271121 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jan 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general headline "On an Official Visit"]

[Text] At the invitation of the Soviet Government, O. Fischer, SED Central Committee member and GDR foreign minister, arrived in Moscow today on an official friendly visit.

At the airport he was met by E.A. Shevardnadze, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR foreign minister, and by other officials.

Among the welcoming party was V.I. Kochemasov, USSR ambassador to the GDR, and G. Koenig, GDR ambassador to the USSR.

On the same day talks started between the ministers during which they discussed in a spirit of friendship and comradely frankness [otrovennosti], questions of bilateral relations and topical international problems.

The talks are continuing.

E.A. Shevardnadze hosted a dinner in honor of O. Fischer.

Present at the dinner were officials accompanying the GDR foreign minister, and on the Soviet side, A.K. Antonov, USSR Council of Ministers deputy chairman; and heads of a number of USSR ministries and departments.

Welcoming the guests from the fraternal country, E.A. Shevardnadze said:

Our meeting has come at a turning point for world politics, when the response of socialism to the challenge of the time, about which M.S. Gorbachev spoke at the 11th SED Congress, is shaping the time itself in a new way.

The world is at last starting to move from the area of confrontation toward the path of restraining the arms race and strengthening trust. For the first time an agreement has been reached on scrapping parts of the nuclear arsenals sufficient for one nuclear war. It dictates the question: Did we achieve a lot? A little, when one recognizes that these arsenals still have the weaponry for a dozen of such wars; and a great deal, when one understands that a world once saved from death has substantially increased its chance of survival. At this historic turning point the Soviet Union and the GDR were together. We were together when the need arose to neutralize the NATO attempts to achieve superiority by stationing U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe. We were together in the struggle for the conclusion of a treaty on the liquidation of intermediate- and shorter-range missiles. Today we are also jointly striving for implementation of the accords that have been reached, and the strengthening of the course toward a nonnuclear and nonviolent world guaranteed by a comprehensive system of international security.

The Soviet Union cooperates with the GDR as with a sovereign and independent socialist state, and acts with it as one, within the socialist community family. At all these levels our relations are firm and our trust in each other is steadfast.

We see it as more than a symbol the fact that it was namely in Berlin, the GDR capital, that a document of primary importance—"on the military doctrine of Warsaw Pact member states"—was adopted. Having created a new basis for the removal of instability and suspicion in relations between the East and the West, this document has introduced a new element into the strengthening of trust.

At our current talks with comrade Fischer, we discussed specific aspects on the implementation of the accord reached at the Berlin conference of the Political Consultative Committee, to the effect that Soviet missiles stationed on GDR territory to counter the threat created by the U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe will be withdrawn after the signing of the Soviet-U.S. agreement on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles. Here also there is full mutual understanding between us that the withdrawal of these missiles from the GDR will begin in the very near future. I will remark incidentally that we have a similar understanding with our Czechoslovak friends.

In this way the socialist countries are making a fresh, substantial contribution to maintaining the necessary momentum toward the implementation of the treaty signed in Washington on 8 December 1987.

At the same time we want once again to affirm with the utmost clarity our view on the danger of all kinds of compensatory buildups of weapons in Europe, and incidentally to remark that it is in vain that London attempts, as Mrs Thatcher did yesterday, to twist the concepts [podmenyat ponyatiya] to justify such compensations. No one is taking away the British Government's right to self defense, and the British prime minister should not make out that she does not understand the difference between this right and the danger of a new twist in the arms race.

Comrade Fischer and I examined in detail other problems pertaining to ensuring security in Europe and in the world.

Being, as always, united in our emphatic condemnation of chemical weapons, we once again confirmed our no less emphatic readiness to seek the quickest possible conclusion of an international convention on the prohibition of this barbarous type of weapon and the total destruction of their stockpiles.

Our views also coincided in respect of the need for intensifying the work of the Vienna meeting of states participating in the Helsinki process, and for the meeting to draw up a mandate for talks on the reduction of conventional weapons and armed forces and to reach accords on other aspects.

The conclusion of the Vienna meeting with positive results undoubtedly will also strengthen the foundations of the common European home, built through joint efforts. However, if this house is really to be built to last and to be durable, this can only be done on the basis of respect for postwar realities. Our relations with the FRG can only develop harmoniously on this type of foundation. We confirmed this once more during the recent visit to that country. Although we retain serious differences with the West German side here, one of the main results of our talks in Bonn is mutual recognition of the fact that the treaties between the socialist countries and the FRG and the quadripartite agreement on West Berlin contain immense potential that enables us to progress toward deepening cooperation in Europe.

Talking about building the common European home, I cannot fail to mention another factor that is complicating this task: The growing concentration of naval forces and weapons in the contiguous seas is arousing serious concern among the states situated in northern Europe.

The time has come to halt that process and to begin talks on restricting naval activity. The proposals outlined by M.S. Gorbachev in his speech in Murmansk in the fall of last year are directed at precisely that. In our view, and we are pleased that this view is shared by the GDR, they could be a good basis for dialogue among the countries of northern Europe.

The main thing for our bilateral cooperation is the implementation of the accords of principle between M.S. Gorbachev and E. Honecker on taking USSR-GDR relations onto a qualitatively new level. These accords are a broad action program for the years ahead, based on the rich experience accumulated over decades of close interaction between our countries in all areas of socialist construction. We are deeply satisfied with the dynamism of our links, and their receptiveness to new and more progressive forms. Integration processes are strengthening and coordination contacts gradually are deepening, as is scientific and technical cooperation. We are already seeing quite a few of these new shoots, and are sparing no efforts to get them to grow in every possible way.

In conclusion, I want to note once again with satisfaction that our full unity and mutual understanding with the GDR are finding positive new stimuli in contemporary conditions. Our relations have a glorious past and present, while ahead lie vastly promising horizons of fraternal cooperation in the interests of peace and socialism.

May the indestructible friendship and fruitful cooperation between the CPSU and the SED, between our peoples and states, continue to strengthen.

I wish you good health, Comrade Fischer, and success in all your undertakings and achievements.

O. Fischer made a speech in reply.

The dinner took place in a cordial and comradely atmosphere.

Fischer Dinner Speech

PM271545 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jan 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report on 26 January Moscow dinner for GDR Foreign Minister O. Fischer under the general heading: "On an Official Visit"]

[Excerpts] O. Fischer, SED Central Committee member and GDR foreign minister, arrived in Moscow 26 January on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government. [passage omitted]

E.A. Shevardnadze gave a dinner in O. Fischer's honor [passage omitted]

O. Fischer delivered a reply speech.

It is good, he said, to be participating once again in our traditional synchronization of watches here, in Moscow, at the center of the revolutionary struggle for lasting peace on earth, and to discuss confidentially questions of joint work with a view to strengthening socialism and ensuring peace. I would like to thank you sincerely for the friendly welcome and the warm words which you used to describe the fraternal cooperation of our parties, states, and peoples.

The peoples look to the future with increased confidence. This is due above all to the Soviet Union and is the result of its bold and enterprising approach to resolving questions that concern all mankind. It is on its dynamic foreign policy that the peoples pin their hopes for an effective shift in international affairs. The results achieved at the December summit meeting between M.S. Gorbachev and R. Reagan are a real gain for the cause of peace and all mankind.

The Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-range Missiles makes it possible to enter a period of nuclear disarmament and is the first and therefore a historic step on the way to creating a nuclear-free world. As E. Honecker, SED Central Committee general secretary and GDR State Council chairman, emphasized, it is a victory so essential to the world and has been achieved not with the help of weapons. It is a victory over arms, a victory for reason and realism.

We can rightfully state that the Warsaw Pact states' joint peace program is bearing its first fruits. The pioneer in this is the USSR, whose thinking and actions accord with the realities of the nuclear and space age. Side by side with the allied states the GDR made its contribution to achieving the "double zero."

It is now directing all its efforts toward its speediest ratification and strict implementation. This is attested by the tripartite agreement between the USSR, the GDR, and the CSSR and also the agreement between the GDR and the United States on the holding of inspections on GDR territory, which were signed back in December.

Against the background of what has been achieved, however, it cannot fail to be seen that influential NATO forces are seeking to make worthless the agreed disarming of one class of weapons by building up arms in other directions.

Quite different actions are being taken by our alliance, whose leading representatives unanimously called in Berlin 11 December last year for further steps to be taken toward disarmament without delay and for the maximum benefit thereby to be derived for the cause of peace. The readiness of the USSR, the GDR, and the CSSR to withdraw operational and tactical missiles from the GDR and the CSSR even before the official validation of the Soviet-U.S. treaty of 8 December 1987 accords with this.

The world needs such signals. Current political development in the world confirms us in our desire to secure a further turn for the better in the situation in Europe. To this end Comrade Erich Honecker appealed to FRG Chancellor H. Kohl not only to do everything possible for the speediest implementation of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles but also to participate in extending nuclear disarmament in Europe to other areas. For this efforts should be multiplied with a view to sharply reducing armed forces and conventional arms, as well as eliminating chemical weapons. In this light the joint proposals of the GDR and the CSSR to create in central Europe a nuclear-free corridor and a chemical weapon-free zone and also to prevent surprise attacks are assuming still greater topicality. Their speediest implementation would have a positive impact on the processes which have been started and stimulate the achievement of global settlements. This applies to the meeting of politicians from all continents advocating the creation of nuclear-free zones, which the GDR has proposed holding. The GDR is thereby fulfilling its historic pledge to do everything to ensure that war never again stems from German soil, only and always peace. Remaining the reliable mainstay of socialism and peace at the center of Europe, the GDR advocates that the "all-European home" should be a place of peace and good-neighborliness. The regulations governing "internal order" are determined by the CSCE process, in which the GDR actively participates.

In accordance with the 11th SED Congress decisions the GDR people are actively and enterprisingly building a developed socialist society. The policy of unity of economic and social policy is releasing the forces necessary for further dynamic economic growth. Here we are concentrating our efforts on assimilating advanced technologies, which are the key to intensifying the national economy. It is nice to be aware that the GDR has good, reliable friends in this matter and is, for its part, such a friend.

Everyday experience of cooperation teaches us that we advance most quickly together. The CPSU and the Soviet people are making great efforts to implement the 27th CPSU Congress decisions on improving the socialist social system in the Soviet Union and asserting the new thinking in the international arena. This is of great significance for the cause of Red October, for strengthening socialism in the USSR and increasing its influence on the course of world affairs. We are profoundly confident that, inspired by the enthusiasm of the October days, the CPSU and the Soviet people will be able to fully reveal the advantages inherent in socialism. Having successfully mastered the fruits of the scientific and technical revolution, socialism will become still more attractive. Thanks to the further revolutionary transformations in the Soviet Union, the path being taken by the socialist countries is acquiring special significance.

In a spirit of international unity and with a feeling of fraternal solidarity the communists and people of the GDR are following the CPSU's struggle to implement the policy of restructuring and renewal, to which an active contribution is being made by the implementation of the 11th SED Congress decisions. This was the conclusion of the 5th SED Central Committee Plenum, held at the end of last year.

The purposeful deepening of the fraternal alliance with the Soviet Union, the all-around development of fruitful ties with other socialist states, and the constant strengthening and consolidation of the socialist community remain the priority task for the GDR. It perceives this as the guarantee of its own successful development. The weighty results stemming from our close cooperation in the name of socialism and peace fill us with a sense of satisfaction and pride. In keeping with the accords between Comrade Erich Honecker and Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, our parties and states are embarking on resolving increasingly large-scale tasks in their cooperation. They provide for the accelerated development of cooperation between ministries, combines, associations, and enterprises in creating and utilizing key technologies in the interests of resolving national economic tasks and enhancing the well-being of the peoples in both countries.

I am sure the SED and the CPSU, the GDR and the USSR, through their close cooperation in all spheres of social life, will make an increasingly weighty contribution to strengthening socialism and peace.

May the tested combat alliance of the SED and the CPSU strengthen, and may the unbreakable friendship and cooperation of our states and peoples yield increasingly rich fruits!

The dinner took place in a cordial, comradely atmosphere.

CPCZ's Horeni's Visit Marks Amity Anniversary

Meets With Medvedev

PM271439 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jan 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In a Comradely Atmosphere"]

[Text] V.A. Medvedev CPSU Central Committee secretary, received 26 January Z. Horeni, CPCZ Central Committee Secretariat member, editor in chief of RUDE PRAVO, and Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship Society Central Committee chairman, who has come to the USSR at the head of a society delegation to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Soviet-Czechoslovak Friendship Society.

In the course of a conversation which took place in a warm, comradely atmosphere, the importance of further galvanizing work among both countries' public in the interests of consolidating Soviet-Czechoslovak ties was noted.

Horeni Interview

LD271856 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 27 Jan 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] An extended session of the board of the Soviet-Czechoslovak Friendship Association took place in Moscow in connection with the 30th anniversary of its establishment. [passage omitted]

The greetings of the CPCZ Central Committee in connection with the 30th anniversary of the association was announced at the session.

[Begin video interview with Zdenek Horeni by Panov]

[Panov] Zdenek Horeni is a member of the CPCZ Central Committee and editor in chief of RUDE PRAVO, the paper of Czechoslovak communists. He is chairman of the Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship Association:

[Horeni in Czech with superimposed Russian translation] The friendship between our peoples was influenced by two recent events of paramount importance: the visit of Comrade Gorbachev to Czechoslovakia in spring last year and the recent visit of Milos Jakes, the new general secretary of our party's Central Committee to Moscow. I am confident the decisions and the documents adopted in the course of the meetings held will mark a new stage in our friendship and cooperation.

[Panov in Czech with superimposed Russian translation] As is known the CPCZ Central Committee December Plenum has embarked on a new policy aimed at accelerating economic and social development of your state.

[Horeni] The December plenum has worked out a comprehensive and concrete program for the acceleration of the economic mechanism and for the democratization of the society. This program has to bring us onto a qualitatively new level of development. The nature of the processes in both our countries sets a task in front of us to search for new and effective forms of cooperation practically in all spheres. [end video interview]

Lukyanov, MSZMP's Fejti Hold 'Comradely' Talks

PM271435 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jan 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meeting Held"]

[Text] A.I. Lukyanov CPSU Central Committee secretary, met 26 January with G. Fejti, MSZMP Central Committee secretary, who is in Moscow at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

An exchange of opinions on questions of intensifying the process of socialist democracy and improving political structures in our countries and party leadership of the activity of state and administrative organs took place in a comradely conversation.

S. Rajnai, Hungarian ambassador to the USSR, took part in the conversation.

Loginov, SFRY's Djukic Discuss Cooperation

PM270935 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Jan 88 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading: "Official Reports"]

[Text] Talks were held at the USSR Foreign Ministry 22 January between USSR deputy foreign minister V.P. Loginov, and I. Djukic, SFRY deputy federal secretary for foreign affairs, on questions of Soviet-Yugoslav cooperation. M. Veres, SFRY ambassador to the USSR, participated in the talks.

Polish Paper on Western Media's 'Falsification'

LD271011 Moscow TASS in English 0922 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Warsaw January 27 TASS—The Polish newspaper ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI has exposed close cooperation of imperialist media in disinforming the public opinion and their methods of impudent falsification of facts.

The mechanism of spreading lies, writes the newspaper of the Polish Ministry of National Defence, functions as follows. The magazine CONTACT, published in Paris, reported that Poland's military budget ostensibly amounted to 12,600 million dollars. The Free Europe Radio station immediately picked up the "sensation".

Such vim is quite understandable on the whole: Both the magazine and the radio station feel the same hatred for the world of socialism and, hence, the common aim: systematically and on instructions to "invoke a spectre" of socialist countries' alleged military superiority over the West. This time bidding came from across the ocean followed by a reference material—a report by the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA)—which "analyzes" defence expenditures of Poland and other socialist countries. Poland's expenditures were "rated" in the report the highest of all—at 12,600 million dollars, the figure which is twice and four times as high as the data submitted on this issue by the London-based International Institute of Strategic Studies and by the Stockholm International Institute for Peace Studies respectively.

ACDA counts in its own way, juggling with figures. In result, 12,600 million dollars are none other than an evidence of the evil will and fantasy of "experts". They wanted to kill two birds with one stone, as the saying

goes: by using a "somewhat adjusted" rate of zloty (which was actually overstated 15-fold against the dollar) and thereby "increased" the share of the military budget in Poland's national income which ACDA reckons in—dollars. The fact that the data issued by Poland's Main Statistical Board were quite different was totally disregarded, the only purpose being to present the findings in a scathing and sensational manner. However, the effect proved the opposite: the authors of the report got into a mess, which was noticed even by their fellow falsifiers: A number of editions and radio stations of the West had to admit that ACDA overdid it.

"Poland's attitude for expenditures for military purposes is determined by the essential sufficiency doctrine", ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI points out. "We try to spend not a zloty less than is necessary to ensure an appropriate level of defence and not a zloty more than is essential. It is no secret to anyone that money in this country is spent economically and rationally. Zloty is zloty, and one should not arbitrarily to recount it in dollars, as is done by ACDA and, with its assistance, by the Paris-based magazine and the Free Europe Radio station. Otherwise confusion is inevitable".

PZPR-USSR Amity Society Design Program

PM280911 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Jan 88 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report under the general rubric "Across Countries and Continents": "Cooperation Program"]

[Text] Warsaw, 26 Jan—A cooperation program between the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society and the Northern Group of Forces in 1988 was signed at the Polish-Soviet Friendship Center in Warsaw. The program makes provision for events to be held in connection with the 70th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces and other important anniversaries and for extensive exchanges in the sphere of science, technology, and culture. A competition under the motto "Friendship Between Servicemen" is to be held for the first time. In the future it will be organized annually and timed to coincide with Soviet Army and Navy Day.

PZPR Visitors Study Party Work at Enterprises

PM271037 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jan 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Interparty Ties"]

[Text] In accordance with the plan for ties between the CPSU and the PZPR a group of PZPR Central Committee members visited the Soviet Union 18-23 January and familiarized themselves with the forms and methods of CPSU party organizations' work at large enterprises. The Polish comrades also had meetings and conversations at the CPSU Central Committee Machine Building Department and Chelyabinsk CPSU Obkom and visited a number of industrial projects.

West Europe

Europarliament Communists Meet Gromyko, Demichev

Members Listed

PM281135 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jan 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Europarliamentarians in the Kremlin"]

[Text] On 26 January A.A. Gromyko received a delegation of communists from the European Parliament in the Kremlin. The delegation is in Moscow at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet Parliamentary Group and the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation.

The delegation consisted of the following:

Giovanni Cervetti, chairman of the European Parliament Communist Group and member of the Italian Communist Party leadership, (head of the delegation); Rene Piquet, deputy chairman of the European Parliament Communist Group and member of the French Communist Party Politburo; Vasilios Efremidhis, deputy chairman of the European Parliament Communist Group and member of the Greek Communist Party Central Committee; Fernando Perez Royo, member of the European Parliament Communist Group Presidium and member of the Spanish Communist Party Executive Committee; Carlos Aboim Ingles, member of the European Parliament Communist Group Presidium and member of the Portuguese Communist Party Central Committee; Jon Iversen, member of the European Parliament Communist Group Presidium and representative of the Danish Socialist People's Party; Kostas Filinis, member of the European Parliament Communist Group Presidium and representative of the Greek Communist Left Party; Gerard Lapra [name as published], member of the European Parliament Communist Group Presidium, secretary of the European Parliament Communist Group, and member of the French Communist Party; and Kallikratidas Kiriazis, member of the European Parliament Communist Group Presidium, member of the European Parliament Communist Group Secretariat, and member of the Greek Communist Party.

P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and other officials were present on the Soviet side.

There was a constructive exchange of opinions on problems of topical importance to the European peoples. It was noted that in European affairs and particularly in matters concerning the security of the European states, the new thinking is carving a way for itself with increasing strength. The security of the European states requires all countries, large and small, irrespective of their social system, to make their own contribution to the task of

disarmament and the elimination of the threat of nuclear war. The idea of universal security is gaining increasing support in the East and the West of the continent.

The participants in the meeting were unanimous that strengthening the foundations of security is a common task shared by all parliamentarians. Without a solution to this task, creation of a peaceful, cooperative Europe is inconceivable.

G. Cervetti talked about how the European Parliament Communist Group represented by the delegation incorporates 48 parliamentarians from six EEC countries. Left-wing forces in the European Parliament have set themselves the aim of gradually overcoming the division of Europe and are doing their utmost to promote the all-European process precisely for this reason. He voiced the belief that treaty ties could be established between the EEC and CEMA within a reasonable period of time. The question of these treaty ties is in the discussion stages.

A.A. Gromyko said that the Soviet Union supports the idea of signing a special declaration to establish official relations between CEMA and the EEC. Not only the countries concerned would benefit from such relations between the two groups of states; all European states would benefit, irrespective of their social system or membership of any political alliances.

At the same time, he continued, it would be wrong if I did not draw attention to the fact that the EEC sometimes creates certain difficulties intended to hold back the development of relations—I am talking about various restrictive lists and restrictive principles. It seems to us that restrictions impeding productive cooperation should not be imposed on contacts between these two major European economic groups. As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, it will do everything possible to accelerate the process leading to accord and the signing of a declaration.

When discussing this issue thought must also be given to the future—not only on a political level but also in economic respects.

On behalf of the Soviet Union I would like to say this: The restructuring we are carrying out on a grand scale creates new, additional opportunities—and the further we go, the greater these opportunities will become—to intensify ties with other states. Our partners in the West need these ties to develop as much as we do.

R. Piquet: Do you think that in the future the EEC could play a role in the international community as a political unit?

A.A. Gromyko: It is very difficult to form an opinion on the future of any institution founded on the basis of an accord between a number of states. Its policy can be no better or worse than the policy of these states themselves. They are responsible for the direction taken by this institution.

Take the United Nations, for example. It is sometimes asked: Is the United Nations effective or not? Can it be improved? We would like to see it become even more effective. To strive to make any international organization better is a truism.

The need to preserve peace is still the main issue. If the world was destroyed, what would become of all these international organizations?

V. Efremidhis: What is your attitude to the way in which some politicians keep raising the issue of West Berlin becoming part of West Germany?

A.A. Gromyko: Our position on this is quite clear. Nothing must contradict the well-known four-power agreement on West Berlin. Every so often you hear people saying that this agreement should be undermined. The Soviet Union did not sign this agreement with the intention of subsequently violating it.

We would like all those politicians in the West who have raised this issue to understand us correctly: We have always consistently upheld the need to strictly abide by the four-power agreement and will continue to do so. This is our principled stand, and we do not intend to change it.

I would like to say once again that our state is a peaceful one and is looking for ways to eliminate nuclear weapons. Our restructuring process is also a policy of peace—it has permeated every pore of our society, the whole of our domestic life, and all our actions in the international arena. I would like you to leave the Soviet Union firmly convinced that the arrow of our compass is pointing toward peace.

We hope that the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles signed during M.S. Gorbachev's visit to the United States will be ratified and enforced.

We will do everything possible to ensure that the talks on a 50% reduction in strategic arms also reach a successful conclusion.

The meeting took place in a cordial, friendly atmosphere.

Meet With Dobrynin

PM271459 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jan 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In the Interests of Europe"]

[Text] A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities Foreign Affairs Commission, received on 26 January a delegation from the European Parliament Communist Group. The group, which is in Moscow, is headed by G. Cervetti, its chairman. The delegation was made up of representatives of communist and leftist parties from Greece, Denmark, Spain, Italy, Portugal, and France. V.V. Zagladin, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, and Yu.I. Zuyev, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, took part in the conversation.

In the course of an animated and constructive conversation, its participants exchanged opinions on a broad range of European affairs. Special attention was devoted to the idea of a "common European home," which, as is well-known, was put forward by M.S. Gorbachev. Despite being a question of states belonging to different social systems and opposing military-political groupings, and also neutral and nonaligned states, this concept reflects Europe's integrity and the historic and cultural community of its peoples, the interdependence of the problems awaiting resolution, and the need to create a durable all-embracing system of security and peaceful cooperation.

Agreeing with the importance of the problems that have been raised, the participants in the conversation advocated implementing a complex of measures to help normalize relations and develop mutual cooperation between the USSR and CEMA and the EEC, such as the development of bilateral cooperation between the countries of East and West Europe. Pursuing a course of all-European cooperation, the Soviet Union advocates comprehensive permanent contact with the European Parliament.

The delegation from the European Parliament Communist Group gave a high assessment of the Soviet Union's efforts in international politics, especially the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, and expressed the hope that the conclusion of this treaty will open up a new phase in the gradual elimination of both sides' nuclear potentials and other types of weapons of mass destruction and also in the reduction of the conventional armaments of two two blocs in Europe.

Both sides came out in support of extensive all-European dialogue on problems affecting the continent's interests and, in particular, advocated holding within this framework a "roundtable" to discuss the problems of security and cooperation in Europe.

In conclusion, the delegation from the European Parliament Communist Group pointed out the undoubted utility of the conversations and meetings it had held in the Soviet Union and expressed readiness to continue contacts and develop dialogue with the Soviet side on questions of international and European policy, disarmament, and cooperation in economic, scientific and technical spheres and in the sphere of culture, human rights, and ecology.

Meet With Petrovskiy

LD271645 Moscow TASS in English 1625 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 27 TASS—A meeting of a delegation of a group of communists in the European Parliament with USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy was held at the USSR Foreign Ministry.

The attention of the participants in the meeting was drawn to a qualitatively new situation that shaped in international affairs in connection with the beginning of a process of real nuclear disarmament, with the strengthening conviction of the need for a comprehensive approach to the insurance for equal security for all. New thinking with regard to Europe is manifested in the concept of a common European home which gets the increasing support both in the East and the West of the continent. The participants in the meeting were unanimous in the view that the consolidation of the foundations of the common European home is the common task of parliaments and governments.

It was noted with satisfaction that the construction of the common European home is implemented on all directions on a firm foundation of the Helsinki Final Act. In this connection the attention was paid to the meeting of participating countries in the European conference under way in Vienna. Vladimir Petrovskiy noted that Soviet Union proceeds from the view that such weighty decisions as would make it possible to place cooperation in the framework of the Helsinki process on a qualitatively new level in every area—military, political, economic, ecological and humanitarian—should be adopted in Vienna.

The participants in the meeting declared in favour of the further intensification of the dialogue in the European Continent and its consolidation with tangible political actions of states.

Tolstykh Receives Swedish Environmental Minister
PM270907 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Jan 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Conversation Held"]

[Text] B.L. Tolstykh, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, received B. Dahl, Swedish minister of energy and the environmental protection, on 25 January.

Questions concerning the further expansion of Soviet-Swedish scientific and technical ties were discussed during the conversation.

Dahl Says Visit 'Useful'
LD272200 Moscow TASS in English 2049 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 27 TASS—Birgitta Dahl, Sweden's minister of the environment and of energy, described her visit to the USSR as constructive and useful. She summed up the results of that visit at a press conference here today.

Questions of environmental protection were given considerable attention during the talks with Soviet representatives. Sweden and the USSR intend to cut by half the volume of harmful and toxic discharges into the Baltic by 1995, Birgitta Dahl said.

Commercial, economic, scientific and technological ties between the two countries will be given a fresh impetus as a result of the visit. Concrete negotiations are already being conducted on the possibility of the deliveries of natural gas to Sweden by the USSR. At the first stage—till the beginning of the nineties, their volume could make up from 1 to 1.5 billion cubic metres, and later, with the gradual lowering of the share of petroleum in Sweden's energy balance, deliveries of gas by the USSR could increase.

Concrete areas of possible widening of businesslike cooperation between the two countries were determined during the talks with Soviet leaders. This applies, above all, to more effective use of energy and construction of trapping structures at enterprises of ferrous metallurgy and the pulp and paper industry. The possibility of creating Soviet-Swedish joint ventures in some of these areas is being discussed, said Sweden's minister of the environment and of energy.

Stockholm Seminar Held on Peace, Disarmament
LD231642 Moscow TASS in English 2338 GMT 22 Jan 88

[Text] Stockholm January 22 TASS—TASS Correspondent Taras Larekhin reports:

A thorough and constructive exchange of opinions on a broad complex of problems of the present-day international situation and measures to promote the progress in nuclear disarmament was held at a seminar here today in the framework of the meeting of the leaders of the Initiative of Six Countries for Peace and Disarmament—Argentina, Greece, India, Tanzania, Mexico and Sweden. Politicians and public leaders of many countries took part in the seminar.

Speaking at the seminar's opening, Sweden's Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson said that the Group of Six showed again in Stockholm the resolve to continue contributing toward achieving disarmament.

Speakers at the seminar unanimously emphasized that the Soviet-American summit in Washington and the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles signed during the summit meant a veritable breakthrough in nuclear disarmament. The process started in Washington could be continued by a reduction of strategic offensive arsenals of the sides, said chairman of the Consultative Committee of the Socialist International for Disarmament Kalevi Sorsa of Finland. Touching upon the situation in the European Continent he emphasized that the question of tactical nuclear weapons and conventional armaments in Europe remains unresolved.

Chairman of the Board of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute Inga Thorsson expressed concern over NATO plans to compensate for the elimination of land-based intermediate-range nuclear missiles by stepping up the arms race on seas. Chairman of the international environmentalists organization Greenpeace, David McTaggart noted in this connection that a third of all nuclear arsenals is now precisely sea-based and that it is necessary to step up the struggle for disarmament in that area.

Former Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Elliot Trudeau and former U.S. presidential adviser John Kenneth Galbraith pointed to the need of consolidating the nuclear non-proliferation treaty regime.

Speaking in the debate, Soviet Academicians Georgiy Arbatov and Yevgeniy Velikhov, Lisbeth Palme, widow of the late Swedish prime minister, Mayor of Hiroshima Takeshi Araki pointed to the need to continue the process of nuclear disarmament, to prevent the militarisation of outer space.

Summing up the results of the Stockholm meeting in his closing speech at the seminar Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou emphasized on behalf of the leaders of the six countries that the participating countries in the initiative of the for [as received] peace and disarmament will continue exerting every effort to ensure reliable peace and eliminate the threat of nuclear war.

Britain Announces Conventional Weapons Buildup

LD271624 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1250 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] London, 27 January (TASS)—The British Government has announced plans to build up its conventional weapons in Europe despite previous statements about its desire to reduce the level of military confrontation on the continent. Speaking in the British House of Commons on Tuesday, Tim Sainsbury, a Ministry of Defense spokesman, reported that a special 5,000-strong brigade of British troops will soon be formed and is designed for rapid transfer by air to northern regions of the FRG. Sainsbury put forward the well-known NATO thesis about the need to "counter a surprise invasion by Soviet tank forces into the territory of NATO countries" as the official reason for such a step. It is proposed to equip the brigade with the latest antitank weapons, as well as "Puma" and "Chinook" military-transport helicopters equipped with missiles. The Ministry of Defense intends to place orders for these helicopters very soon, Sainsbury reported.

At the same time, the Ministry of Defense put out a statement from which it is clear that the program for the modernization of Britain's atomic submarine fleet through the purchase of U.S. "Trident" nuclear missile systems will be implemented "according to schedule." The first submarine to carry these first-strike ballistic nuclear missiles is due to be placed in full operational readiness by the mid-90's. The "Tridents" themselves will be purchased in the United States, where they will subsequently be regularly checked and serviced. It is planned to commence the production of warheads for them at a special enterprise at Aldermaston, a major nuclear center in Britain. One program alone for the creation of such an enterprise will cost the British taxpayer 1 billion pounds.

Significantly, the statements about these military preparations were made immediately after Prime Minister M. Thatcher's recent television interview, in which she clearly pointed out London's intention to maintain a course of modernizing and "rearming" the NATO forces. Having approved the signing of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles as an "advantageous deal," the head of the Conservative government at the same time made a special point that this agreement only covers land-based missiles. She also stressed the need "to strengthen the defense capability" of the West in everything that lies outside of the framework of this treaty. The prime minister's pronouncements have increased even more the alarm of Britain's antiwar circles, who are extremely worried about recent press reports about NATO's plans to maintain its intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe, merely replacing their basing mode from surface to air.

Motor Traffic Agreement Signed With Britain

PM270937 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Jan 88 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading: "Official Reports"]

[Text] A signing ceremony has been held in London for a Soviet-British agreement on international motor traffic. The document was signed on the Soviet side by Yu.S. Sukhin, RSFSR minister of motor transport, and on the British side by Timothy Eggar, British Parliamentary under secretary for foreign and commonwealth affairs. L.M. Zamyatin, USSR ambassador to Britain, attended the ceremony.

Political & Social

Zaykov Addresses Machine Builders' Meeting

PM270857 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Jan 88 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Stepping Up Work"]

[Text] The development of all industry in the country depends largely on a key sector—machine tool building. An enlarged session of the USSR Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry Collegium and the Machine-Building and Instrument-Making Workers Union Central Committee Presidium was devoted to the results of the sector's activity in 1987 and to the tasks of restructuring work and ensuring the fulfillment of the 1988 plan targets under the new management conditions. It was held in Moscow 18 January.

N.A. Panichev, USSR minister of the machine tool and tool building industry, delivered the report.

Critically analyzing the state of affairs, the collegium participants noted a number of serious shortcomings in the sector's work: The plan was not fulfilled with regard to the volume of commodity output, the most important types of products, consumer goods, or labor productivity growth, and considerable numbers of automatic lines, processing centers, and other types of progressive equipment were not supplied to machine building.

During the collegium's work, specific ways were outlined to overcome the lag and fulfill the 1988 state plan by improving the production economics of enterprises, raising the technical standard and quality of products, and intensifying the integration of science with production. Special attention was devoted to questions of the introduction of economic accountability [khozyaystvennyy raschet] and self-financing at all enterprises.

The collegium session was addressed by L.N. Zaykov, member of the Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and first secretary of Moscow CPSU Gorkom.

He noted the sector's important role in realizing the machine-building modernization program. However, the positive advances in the work of the USSR Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry are still small. It is an alarming fact that a number of enterprises are failing to cope with the targets for the most important indicators, and the level of fulfillment of contract pledges has fallen.

Analyzing the reasons for the situation which has taken shape, L.N. Zaykov emphasized that they consist primarily in the fact that the work style and methods of the sector's headquarters correspond neither to the new management conditions nor to the high demands of restructuring. A system of poor performance and tardiness in realizing what is planned and a lack of a proper control system have become ensconced.

Emphasis was placed on the importance of carefully preparing the sector's enterprises and the entire machine-building complex for work under conditions of economic accountability and self-financing, the state enterprise law, and the new management structure.

It was pointed out that the ministry devotes insufficient attention to questions of saving material and energy resources and is slow to eliminate shortcomings in the work of sectorial science, although the low efficiency of a number of institutes' developments has repeatedly been pointed out.

Two years ago, having examined the sector party committee's report, the CPSU Central Committee Secretariat pointed to serious shortcomings in its work style and methods and to the prevailing atmosphere of complacency in the ministry apparatus, but the party committee and collegium have still not drawn the proper conclusions. Everyone working in machine tool building must strongly step up their work.

Attention was also drawn to bad work by subcontractors, because of whom there were serious interruptions in machine tool builders' activities, and to the inadmissibility of disruptions to the rhythm of the entire machine-building complex.

Summing up what had been said, L.N. Zaykov emphasized that this year, the year of the 19th All-Union Party Conference, must be a turning point in the sector's work.

Participating in the collegium's work were I.S. Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; A.I. Volskiy, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Machine Building Department; leaders of a number of ministries and departments and of enterprises and organizations in the sector, party committee secretaries, and representatives of the sector's labor collectives.

Information Reports on Ukrainian Party Plenum

First Day

PM281121 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 23 Jan 88 p 1

["Information Report on the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"—PRAVDA UKRAINY headline]

[Text] A Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee plenum opened 22 January.

The plenum is discussing a Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo report on work in the leadership of restructuring. On the instructions of the

Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo the report on this question was delivered by V.V. Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee.

The following took part in the discussion: V.P. Mironov, first secretary of the Donetsk Party Obkom; V.P. Mysnichenko, first secretary of the Kharkov Party Obkom; V.I. Cherbayev, lathe operator team leader at Odessa's Yanvarskoye Vosstaniye heavy crane building production association; K.I. Masik, first secretary of the Kiev Party Gorkom; B.Ye. Paton, president of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences and director of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences Ye.O. Paton Electrowelding Institute; Yu.P. Babich, chairman of the Dnepropetrovskiy Oblispolkom; A.F. Kondratyuk, milkmaid at the "Ukraina" Kolkhoz in Rovno Oblast's Mlinovskiy Rayon; G.I. Revenko, first secretary of the Kiev Party Obkom; A.N. Karpenko, integrated team leader at the Ternopol "Ternopolpromstroy" trust; V.S. Shevchenko, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; V.F. Vilchinskiy, chairman of the "Druzhba" Kolkhoz in Vinnitsa Oblast's Khmelniskiy Rayon; A.P. Smolyannikov, first secretary of the Sevastopol Party Gorkom, Crimea Oblast; I.K. Lutak, first secretary of the Cherkassy Party Obkom; N.A. Shibik, editor of RABOCHAYA GAZETA and chairman of the Ukrainian Union of Journalists Board; F.T. Morgun, first secretary of the Poltava Party Obkom; N.S. Surgay, director general of the Donetsk "Donetskgosugleprom" State Coal Industry Production Association; P.G. Osipenko, Ukrainian SSR prosecutor; Ya.P. Pogrebnyak, first secretary of the Lvov Party Obkom; A.A. Chunikhin, steelworker at the Zaporozhye "Zaporozhstal" metallurgical combine named for Sergo Ordzhonikidze; and V.A. Sologub, chairman of the Ukrainian Trade Union Council.

The plenum is being attended by V.S. Babichev, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Organizational Party Work Department. [as published]

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum continues its work today.

Final Day

PM281141 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 24 Jan 88 p 1

["Information Report on the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"—PRAVDA UKRAINY headline]

[Text] The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum continued its work 23 January. Its participants discussed the report of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo on work in the leadership of restructuring.

Taking part in the debate were I.A. Lyakhov, first secretary of Voroshilovgrad party obkom; K.G. Nosov, director of the Dnepropetrovsk Oblast Krivoy Rog "Krivorozhstal" metallurgical combine named for V.I. Lenin; V.G. Dikusarov, first secretary of Khmelnitskiy party obkom; Yu.A. Kolomiyets, first deputy chairman of the Ukrainian Council of Ministers and chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Gosagroprom; N.N. Kondozhko, horticultural team leader at the Kherson Oblast Beryslavskiy Rayon "Kamenskiy" Sovkhoz-Plant; V.I. Tsybukh, first secretary of the Ukrainian Komsomol Central Committee; V.V. Demyanov, first secretary of Zaporozhye Oblast Kuybyshevskiy party raykom; V.V. Skopenko, rector of the Kiev T.G. Shevchenko State University; V.A. Masol, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers; Ye.A. Fedorenko, first secretary of Chernigov party gorkom; and Yu.A. Bondar, Ukrainian minister of local industry.

The closing speech was delivered by V.V. Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee.

The plenum adopted a resolution on the question discussed. The resolution is published in the press.

Organizational questions were examined. The plenum promoted V.A. Ivashko from candidate to full member of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo. K.I. Masik was elected candidate member of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo.

With that the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum ended.

Latvian Party Plenum Debate Reported

PM271123 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jan 88 Second Edition p 2

[Correspondent O. Meshkov dispatch under the rubric: "Party Life: Elected Organs' Reports": "The Higher the Post, the Stricter the Demands"]

[Text] Riga—Preparations for this plenum in the republic were more thorough than ever before. Participants received copious information in advance about the main spheres of the work of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau in the leadership of restructuring. They were also supplied with the most characteristic excerpts from working people's letters in response to a questionnaire about the progress of restructuring. Alongside expressions of support for the course of renewal there is evidence of people's concern at the fact that the processes of restructuring are frequently progressing with difficulty and are dogged by problems.

Here are just two of the many letters:

"In our collective the view persists that there are serious shortcomings in the style of the republic's leadership and that bureaucracy is still firmly entrenched," P. Upmalis writes from Liyepayskiy Rayon. "Attitudes, 'instilled' over decades, of waiting for instructions from above and carrying them out unconditionally, even if this goes against common sense, are the main obstacle."

P. Zvirbulis writes from Riga: "The restructuring here is hampered by obsolete regulations and the inflated staffing of offices, ministries, and committees, by fear of the authorities, and by the impotence of certain party organizations."

Many questions have also been raised by people on the pages of republic newspapers under the rubric: "In Preparation for the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum." The frank conversations of Central Committee Bureau members in labor collectives about the most vital problems proved extremely useful. Special groups were set up to study various aspects of the Central Committee's work in greater depth.

"In my opinion it was precisely the thorough preparations and the exacting analysis of the prevailing state of affairs in the republic which helped to steer the discussion in the right direction," A. Chikste, chairman of Yelgavskiy Rayon's "Nakotne" Kolkhoz, told us during a break between sessions.

After the break another representative of rural Communists—I. Khokhlenko, first secretary of the Limbazhskiy party raykom—took the floor. At the end of his speech he proposed: "Let us in the future discuss our problems more often in the context of what is being done about them by individual members of the Central Committee Bureau."

The speaker was prompted to make this suggestion, which was greeted with approval by the plenum participants, by the businesslike and principled nature of the discussion and the atmosphere of frankness in which it took place. The tone was set by the pointed, self-critical report of the Bureau on work to lead restructuring, which was delivered by B. Pugo, first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee.

Describing the measures adopted by the Bureau and the Secretariat to deepen restructuring as not entirely consonant with the scale and urgency of the problems which have accumulated, the speaker immediately moved on to analyzing the activity of each individual member of the Bureau. The Central Committee first secretary accepted the main blame for the shortcomings and omissions. In this context B. Pugo stated that he has made mistakes in selecting the complex of problems to which the first secretary should attend. The reason for this is most often a desire to serve the common cause as best he can, but a single person can never do everything. This style of work is sometimes automatically encouraged by the important fact that other Bureau members are not all that successful in coping with tasks in the sectors with which they have been entrusted.

It was noted, for instance, that Second Secretary V. Sobolev has failed to focus attention on substantially improving work with cadres and actively influencing the process of the democratization of party life. Lately a great deal has been done to improve the selection and placement of cadres. More than 7,000 leaders at various levels have been selected on a competitive basis. A number of party raykom and gorkom secretaries have been elected in secret ballots among several candidates. A certification of all party committee staffers has been carried out. Yet an effective action program in this most important sphere has still not been elaborated. Window dressing and a desire to cover up the lack of positive work with highfalutin words have still not been overcome.

On the eve of the last report and election meetings sweeping statements were made to the effect that dozens of young promising specialists had been "found" at last. Where are they now? Still on the reserve lists which have been simply forgotten in party raykoms and gorkoms and Central Committee departments. In this context criticism was leveled at G. Loskutov, candidate member of the Central Committee Bureau and chief of the Organizational Party Work Department. He was told to attend more thoroughly to the questions in his charge, to be more exacting toward cadres, and to disseminate more persistently the experience of the best party organizations. The results of the failure to disseminate experience are obvious. For instance, the cadre reserve schools at the Riga party gorkom and the Moskovskiy party raykom have proved their worth. Scientists' recommendations for the competitive selection of students have been skillfully applied here and good practical results have been achieved. But this is not the case everywhere.

During the assessment of the contributions of individual Bureau members to the party leadership of restructuring, severe criticism was coupled with good will. There was evidence of an increased collective desire to eliminate the shortcomings which prevent individual comrades from working effectively and creatively. Ya. Okherin, Central Committee secretary in charge of industry, transport, and construction, for instance, still pays too much attention to "technology" to the detriment of the political aspect of work. Therefore the plenum participants advised him to pay more frequent visits to labor collectives and to make a bigger effort to study people's mood. Speaking about Ya. Okherin's underestimation of the human factor, T. Savitskaya, first secretary of the Leninskiy party raykom, for instance, noted that he rarely attends raykom and gorkom plenums and almost never addresses them.

Dissatisfaction was expressed at the plenum with the work of the management apparatus of the republic Gosagroprom. The Latvian Gosagroprom apparatus is excessively large, bureaucracy still rules, and administrative-pressure methods of management are flourishing. Meanwhile the situation on the farms is as follows: Only 70% of people employed in crop farming and stock raising operate under the team contract system and only just over 50% have introduced full economic accountability [khozraschet]. The checkbook system of monitoring production expenditure is being used on only 14 farms and lease contracts have been introduced on only 2 farms.... The plenum noted that the Central Committee Bureau has still not ensured a marked change in the thinking and work of the Republic Gosagroprom leaders.

On the instructions of the Bureau, Central Committee Secretary A. Bril is in charge of the problems of the agro-industrial complex. He himself will have to restructure his ways in many respects. Above all, he will have to give up his habit of supplanting Gosagroprom specialists. Speakers also noted that he is excessively soft, which damages the cause.

There are specific reasons for the blunders in the party leadership of the economy, of course. But there is also one general one. That, in the opinion of the plenum participants, is the poor ideological backup provided for the tasks in hand. It was noted that party organizations' political and ideological education work is clearly lagging behind the growing demands. The plenum placed a considerable share of the responsibility for this situation on Central Committee Secretary A. Gorbunov, who has not yet rid himself of many rigid, conservative forms and methods of work and is dissipating his efforts. While devoting much time to theory and the study of problems, he does not pay sufficient attention to the selection of cadres and to practical questions of educational work in labor collectives. This frequently produces undesirable results.

"We see with our own eyes how the principles of socialjustice are sometimes violated," Ya. Geyba, first secretary of Daugavpilskiy party raykom, said. "The rayon children's home needs a swimming pool. The Ministry of Education has told us: There is no money. Yet the money has been found for strong, rich kolkhozes. I believe that Central Committee Bureau Member Gorbunov bears a certain amount of responsibility for the ministry's style of work."

The situation is further aggravated by the fact that the Central Committee Bureau and its ideological departments have failed to notice in time that party raykoms and gorkoms, becoming carried away with economic problems, have increasingly underestimated the role of political work.

It was admitted at the plenum that the republic party aktiv has proved essentially ill prepared to effectively and vigorously combat alien views and moods, to operate confidently in conditions where there is a clash of different viewpoints, and to conduct sharp polemics and discussions and forestall negative events. Special principledness was imparted to the discussion of this question by the fact that the CPSU Central Committee has already drawn the attention of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau to serious omissions in the organization of working people's ideological and political education, the inadequate countering of provocative campaigns inspired from abroad, and manifestations of nationalism alien to the Soviet way of life.

Speakers returned again and again to the analysis of the causes which are hampering restructuring and delaying the advent of tangible changes.

Reflecting on these drawbacks, the speakers came to the conclusion: The implementation of the adopted decisions still clearly lacks purposefulness and determination. Central Committee departments frequently duplicate the work of the analogous republic Council of Ministers departments and fail to exert the necessary political influence on the situation and the work of party committees, primary party organizations, economic managers, and labor collectives. Many people spoke of the need to considerably intensify monitoring of execution. We can no longer tolerate a situation, they said, where urgent issues are carried over from plenum to plenum and there is no change or little change in the actual situation.

The plenum participants agreed that the more convincing an example the Central Committee Bureau and each of its members set in restructuring the style and methods of work, the swifter the desired changes will be. The plenum which has just ended was a noticeable step in this direction.

Ugarov Urges Adherence to Socialist Realism

PM280931 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jan 88 Second Edition p 3

[Extract from speech by USSR People's Artist Professor B. Ugarov, president of the USSR Academy of Arts, at the Seventh Congress of USSR Artists, under the rubric: "At the Seventh Congress of USSR Artists": "Enriching the Traditions"]

[Text] No matter what topical questions we may discuss today, they will not be resolved successfully unless we define the main principles of our art, of our arts policy.

There is no denying that many specific problems and worries, often very urgent problems which brook no delay, have accumulated in the sphere of the production of spiritual values. They all need to be attended to, discussed, and solved.

It is known that there have been many different proposals on how to improve the situation in the arts sphere. Some of them are reminiscent of a search for a panacea,

pinning all hope on economic accountability [khozraschet], or unofficial associations, or unions within the union, or, last but not least, on the expansion of the rights of the major creative organizations.

Each of these ideas is justified up to a point and therefore quite legitimate. However, there is little point in arguing for or against any of them until we have provided ourselves and others with an answer to the main question: From what ideological and creative positions are we going to discuss these ideas? What social and aesthetic goals are we setting ourselves? How do we interpret democracy—as a course toward establishing market relations in art, toward the spontaneous development—or rather anarchy—of philistine, pseudopopular tastes, or toward the restoration and development of Leninist norms in cultural policy and the continuation of cultural building and a spiritual revolution on a broader and truly nationwide basis?

The fact that present-day life and creative practice are so multifarious and complex that they cannot be reduced to simple terms, cannot serve as a justification for a lack of ideological discrimination, for spiritual aridity, or the readiness to latch onto any philosophy. Otherwise the Union of Artists will be reduced to a kind of trade union which pursues the aim of serving its own interests rather than those of society. In that case our congress will no longer be the highest forum of Soviet artists, of like-minded people capable of raising and resolving large-scale ideological and creative problems of statewide importance but a gathering of representatives of a kind of cooperative that engages in individual creative activity.

Life does not stand still, of course, and the statutes of the USSR Union of Artists like, incidentally, the statutes of the USSR Academy of Arts, which define the fundamental aims and tasks of our art, need to be amended; possibly even substantially amended in the spirit of the truly revolutionary transformations toward which the party set course at the Central Committee April (1985) Plenum.

But we must not forget that the provisions to ensure "the firm establishment of the method of socialist realism" and the "observance of the Leninist principles of people- and party-mindedness in art" which are enshrined in our statutes are a meaningful generalization of the rich experience of selfless service to society and to art on the part of our best artists, outstanding exponents of multinational Soviet art. I am convinced that many of the problems in our artistic life have been brought about precisely by a departure from vitally important principles, by a vulgarization of these principles, and by speculation with the spiritual values and ideals of socialism. The struggle for the concept of socialist realism would have none of its social poignancy if this concept did not designate the vital truth for which we are striving today. The 70-year-old history of multinational Soviet art must be purged of lies rather than of its true gains and achievements, because otherwise we risk throwing the baby out with the bathwater, as the saying goes, and being left with nothing at all.

History can furnish us with many examples of irreversible, ruinous consequences of aesthetic nihilism, of dangerous urges to start building on the ruins of the past or from scratch. I am convinced that attempts to carry out a total reappraisal of values in respect of history and the present time, attempts to pit certain artists against others, are of little use and sometimes even immoral. They merely lead to the dissipation and confrontation of forces, to the creation of an atmosphere of intolerance, wholesale accusations and petty squabbles, which deflect us from the main concerns of great art. It must only ever be a question of enriching and expanding the spiritual and historical potential of Soviet art and on no account of impoverishing it. After all, this is fraught with the loss of such historical gains of Soviet art as its people- and party-mindedness, the spirit of collectivism, internationalism, and civic service to society.

It seems to me that the desire to unleash a "civil war" in art is often dictated by not very seemly aims, a desire, to be precise, to claim the sole right to the ultimate truth, a monopoly on criticism, or a vainglorious thirst for cheap popularity. We have been through all this before!

Let us not forget that history can be defiled only with the help of lies; truth ennobles it. However, genuine truth demands special respect, it has to be handled carefully, because it is connected with people's destinies, with their lives and hopes, their labor and achievements. It is not a subject for empty sensationalism or gloating over other people's misfortune.

The rejection of administration by decree in matters of art in favor of democratization and glasnost is not tantamount to a rejection of the fundamental principles of our cultural policy but is based on a desire to give them back their revolutionary and innovative nature, having purged them of everything that smacks of inertia and dogmatism.

The possibility of openly criticizing all and sundry is just one of the conditions but not the aim of the changes which are under way. The key aim pursued by the party in the process of restructuring is to reveal the humane content of socialism, to fully realize the potential of our system which must serve people not merely in the consumerist sense of the word but ennoble them, help them to improve themselves and enrich them spiritually.

Only by backing rather than rejecting socialism and developing and multiplying its gains will it be possible to achieve the badly needed consolidation and unification of our creative forces, only by appraising our union's place and position at the historical turning point in this way will the union be able to participate actively with great, statewide efforts in the process of restructuring.

I believe that what our initiatives sometimes lack is precisely the necessary scope and breadth of thought. Sometimes our plans do not stretch beyond the framework of a thematic exhibition or the money with which we are graced by construction workers. True, even 2% of the construction cost is a great gain. But it cannot and must not serve as the ceiling for our design and planning work and—I am not afraid to use the word—epoch-making creative programs for the aesthetic improvement of our living environment, a more intensive development of propaganda to preserve our monuments, and of arts and humanitarian education and culture.

Economic accountability [khozraschet] alone will not take us very far in the sphere of genuine humanitarian culture. If we want to be real successors and continuers of the Leninist cultural revolution, to carry onward the baton of the art of the first 5-year plans and the patriotic feats of the Great Fatherland War with honor, and to march in step with restructuring into the third millenium of mankind's history, the basis of our creative activity will have to be provided by a program and cultural building policy of a truly statewide nature as regards the scope and importance of the problems being tackled.

The Union of Artists is not merely the sum of individual studios and talents but an integrated collective—or at least it should be—if the major measures which we are implementing are to evoke the maximum social reaction and become events of the cultural life of the country as a whole. In this context I personally am very worried by the fact that, judging by a number of recent "unofficial" exhibitions, an appreciable section of our creative forces, especially young people, are following the Western rather than socialist model of the development of culture, frequently giving preference to following in the wake of bourgeois modernism rather than taking up a worthy place in the ranks of Soviet artists.

It is not so much a question of the cunning of our ideological adversaries as a question of our ability or rather lack of it—creative, moral, and civic ability—to set an example to those who will take over from us. Here pride of place belongs, of course, to the task of preserving such an invaluable gain of Soviet culture as the artistic school of realism and of reinforcing it above all with new, promising cadres. No less important is also the problem of strengthening the links between the school and life, including artistic life.

I do not want to be misunderstood, but some of our youth associations remind me of a golden cage which, on the one hand, separates the young artists from those who regard the arrival of every new artistic generation as an encroachment on their private property, and on the other hand isolates the young ones from the "big union," from big art.

The republic artists' congresses have ended and the all-union congress has opened. In just over a month the Academy of Arts will meet. Is the percentage of young people on boards and secretariats and in our Academy big enough for their voice to carry sufficient weight when determining the main spheres of our creative activity and the future of the multinational Soviet art which will largely have to be created by the young people?

The young people's confidence in the older generations can only be restored if there is a maximum of reciprocal confidence in their potential and abilities.

Only if we all rally together in the creative union will we have enough strength to successfully resolve the tasks which life istself is setting us.

Mental Patients' Rights, Interests Guaranteed

LD281231 Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Excerpt] The Soviet Union has given extra guarantees to mental patients in terms of protecting their rights and interests. This was stated at a Moscow meeting between Soviet psychiatrists and spokesmen of the international federation of Helsinki groups on human rights. The spokesmen, representing the United States, Canada, and a number of West European countries, acquainted themselves with new rules for treating mentally ill people in the Soviet Union. For instance, such patients or their relatives can now complain about the doctor's decision to court. Speakers at the meeting refuted the allegations in the media of the Western countries that in the Soviet Union people are put to [as heard] mental clinics for their views. [passage omitted]

Criminal, Civil Codes Under Consideration

LD271808 Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] The director of the Soviet Institute of Law, (Venyamin Yakovlev), has announced that the current Soviet reforms will also improve the protection of civil rights and liberties of Soviet people. New criminal, civil, and (?law) process codes are under consideration to give greater guarantees of legal and social protection.

Next on the agenda is an act on the further democratization of the electoral system. That is only part of legislation package worked out in the course of Soviet restructuring. A law on appeals against abuse by officials has come into force since 1 January.

Legal Experts Interviewed on Reform

DW271251 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 25 Jan 88 pp 146-151

[Interview with Criminologist Vladimir Kudryavtsev, member of the USSR Academy of Sciences Presidium, and Valeriy Savitskiy, former state prosecutor and head of the academy's Department for Theoretical Problems of the Administration of Justice, by DER SPIEGEL editors Axel Jeschke and Joerg R. Mettke in Moscow; date not given]

[Text] SPIEGEL: Vladimir Nikolayevich, Valeriy Mikhaylovich: What significance do juridical reforms have for the current transformation of Soviet society?

Kudryavtsev: A double significance. They are supposed to contribute to getting the transformation started and to implement it; they must anchor the political, economic, and social changes. However, the legal system itself must be remodeled. In doing so, all spheres of life must be included.

SPIEGEL: Where are changes most urgent; what legal norms hinder perestroyka most?

Kudryavtsev: There are obstacles in all legal fields. Precedence must be given to the economy, to economic law, which entails finance law, labor law, property law, administrative law, and even the environmental protection law. My colleague Savitskiy will say that even all that does not suffice.

Savitskiy: Yes, criminal law is also part of it, procedural law, even parts of international law.

SPIEGEL: Are the new economic law stipulations not too halfhearted? According to stipulations issued in January last year on so-called joint ventures—that is joint Soviet-Western ventures—the capitalist side will get a maximum of 49% of the shares, and only a Soviet citizen can be the general director. Under such conditions you can hardly be surprised by the restraint of big Western firms.

Savitskiy: After all, many Western firms have already established contacts with us.

SPIEGEL: But fewer than your economists had hoped for, and most of all not such firms that would bring along the world's top level technology and know-how.

Savitskiy: Agreed, but please consider that one must begin every new thing carefully. Naturally, the Soviet side wants and must make gains. I can very well imagine that at some time we will arrive at legal stipulations permitting a 50-50 capital participation, with each side providing a general director every 3 years in turn. But we need practical experience first.

SPIEGEL: The 1966 "Law on Individual Labor Activities" also does not seem to us to be very generous. It permits private tailoring and pottery, but it prohibits private production of jewelery and perfume; a citizen is permitted to work as a private tutor for money, but he is not permitted to organize a dance. High taxes and license fees curtail the material incentive and again paralyze private initiative desired by the party and government.

Kudryavtsev: The limits are not that strict at all. Local soviets can very well permit activities that are not listed by law. There is private taxi driving now, for example, private enterprises for ready-made clothing, private cafeterias, bakeries, and restaurants. That will have a broad effect within 1 year.

Savitskiy: Just the permission for individual activities to make money at all is an enormous novelty in our way of life—economically, politically, and morally. For a long time something like that was considered absolutely incompatible with socialist principles. Such an approach was even considered incorrect, but now it is important to convince the people in this connection. At the public discussion of that law there were many opposing voices. Workers and farmers asked: Did we fight for that in 1917? Such reservations can be eliminated only gradually. It is a matter of implementing at least what the law permits—against the resistance of the bureaucrats, of which we have many in our country.

SPIEGEL: Your Constitution has promised since 1977 that citizens could defend themselves in court against violations of official duties. But only now the Suprme Soviet has issued a law permitting practical implementation of it. Why did it take 10 years?

Savitskiy: You are right, it took an unacceptably long time. General Secretary Gorbachev had to urge that law at the 27th CPSU Congress in February/March 1986.

SPIEGEL: No laurels for the future.

Savitskiy: No. There was juridical stagnation, which we are now frankly discussing.

SPIEGEL: Juridical or political?

Savitskiy: Both. At that time the executive had gained unbelievable dimensions. When the citizens were supposed to be protected in court against bureaucratic errors, state organs defended themselves from the minister down to to an office chief against curtailment of their power. Naturally, they wanted to decide themselves in their institutions about complaints. In practice that blocked the work of the legislative commissions. Our instutute, at any rate, right after the implementation of the Constitution pressed for the law on legal controls of the administration as one of the first laws.

SPIEGEL: Effective legal control of administrative acts pre-supposes that authorities orient themselves solely by laws and regulations in making all their decisions. Must you not first implement that principle of lawfulness of the administration and push back the influence of political interests exerted through all kinds of party authorities?

Savitskiy: Unfortunately that influence was exerted even on court decisions. Thanks to glasnost we know all about that, or at least almost all. Those who have failed morally and who have violated the law must be removed from their posts. You may have noted that many party functionaries, up to the republic level, have been replaced for that reason.

SPIEGEL: If you want to protect the citizens against the bureaucracy, why do you not introduce administrative courts?

Kudryavtsev: A discussion is going on about that. I myself have doubts whether a special court branch in that field will really produce more justice, experience in various countries is very different in that respect. There is always the danger that such administrative courts will somehow grow together with state apparatus.

Savitskiy: I proceed from the assumption that all citizens are equal in court. That is an axiom for me. Even the slightest deviation from that principle creates social injustice. Therefore an official must face the same court as any other citizen. Naturally, that does not exlude some judges of the same court dealing exclusively with control of administration.

SPIEGEL: In the USSR there are 15,000 judges for about 284 million people. That is 2,000 less than in West Germany with only 61 million people. Must not the whole reform fail just for lack of personnel?

Savitskiy: No question about it, we need more judges. Definitely... those we have are hopelessly overburdened, and not only from handling law suits. They have additional tasks that are hard to imagine for judges in your country. They must train associate judges, they must give progress reports to the voters, and explain the law to the people.

SPIEGEL: A significant prerequisite for the functioning of a constitutional system is the independence of judges. Will they be selected only for a limited period of time as before in the USSR, or will they be appointed for a life term?

Savitskiy: I have considered the pros and cons of both systems for many years, and I was undecided. After long consideration I am now of the opinion that appointment for life, not for a limited period of time, safeguards the independence of judges best.

SPIEGEL: Let us discuss the law. According to the "Principles of Criminal Law", Article 22, "Execution by shooting as an extraordinary means of punishment is permitted until the absolute abolition of the death sentence." Will that atavistic means of punishment be eliminated eventually in the course of the criminal law reform on which you are also working?

Kudryavtsev: A discussion is going on about it and, naturally, there are many different opinions. Many jurists are in favor of abolition. However, the majority of the people seem to be for retention.

The following compromise solution might be possibly useful: retention in case of particularly cruel murder, but with very strong restrictions, not for women, young people, the disabled, or old people. We will also probably renounce it for economic crimes.

SPIEGEL: How about crimes against the state?

Kudryavtsev: It seems to me that the death sentence will have to be retained here for certain crimes, such as serious terrorism, high treason, and collaboration with the enemy in times of war.

SPIEGEL: Will two other sanctions be retained that are strange to the West—"expulsion" of a citizen from his place of residence, and "deportation" to another region?

Kudryavtsev: I am in favor of abolishing them also.

SPIEGEL: What will become of paragraph 70 (anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda) and of 190-1 (slandering the state), under which dissidents are being accused and sentenced in your country?

Kudryavtsev: I believe that every country has such or similar regulations, including the FRG. It is now important for us to draw a clear line through clear formulations between the desired free statement of opinion, on the one hand, and the fanning of antistate activities on the other.

SPIEGEL: Vadim Zagladin, deputy chief of the Central Committee's International Department, said it more clearly. He would prefer to completely renounce Paragraph 190-1.

Savitskiy: Our view has changed considerably on that point. According to the old standards, many of our writers would have to be punished as dissidents. I think that Zagladin's position will be implemented.

SPIEGEL: When the workers at the Likino Bus Factory recently stopped their assembly lines for 3 days because they were irritated by pay cuts, outdated technology, and poor organization of work, the first one to appear in the factory was the public prosecutor. Will a strike in a Soviet enterprise remain a case for the criminal courts?

Savitskiy: According to our criminal code a strike is not prohibited. The state prosecutor did not go there to prosecute. He came in his main function as a controlling organ for adherance to the law. I was a public prosecutor before. I would have checked why the assembly lines were stopped and whether the workers had reason to strike.

SPIEGEL: The chief of the supervising authority of that enterprise publicly criticized the stupidity of calling the prosecutor at all; again somebody wanted to "frighten the people first."

Savitskiy: I am certain that no worker will be prosecuted for that incident under the criminal code.

SPIEGEL: The rights of the accused in Soviet criminal proceedings are curtailed by the fact that only after preliminary investigations, that is in an advanced state of proceedings, can he have a lawyer. Will a lawyer be called in the future during the preliminary investigations? When will he be permitted to have access to the files?

Savitskiy: It is news to me that there have been objections to admitting a lawyer in earlier investigation stages. Until recently the old system was considered to be the optimum. However, critical media reports have shown the public that there can be misuse in preliminary investigations to the disadvantage of the accused. I am personally in favor of counsel for the defense being permitted to act in proceedings in as early a stage as possible, when a citizen has been arrested for suspicion of a crime.

SPIEGEL: It is indispensable to fair proceedings that the accused is considered not guilty until proceedings have been legally concluded. Will that assumed innocence be legally anchored in the future?

Savitskiy: In principle it is already in the Soviet Constitution. Our Supreme Court has submitted respective definitions that are most precise compared internationally. It is absolutely binding for all official instances and it reads: The accused is considered innocent as long as his guilt is not proven in court according to the legally prescribed rules of the court. I am convinced that this legal maxim will be reduced to law in the near future.

SPIEGEL: According to Soviet law the public prosecutor's office is responsible not only for criminal prosecution, it exerts entire legal control, including control of the courts. Does such an almighty public prosecutor still fit into reformed criminal proceedings?

Savitskiy: I do not find that the public prosecutor is almighty. But as he has to supervise adherance to the law, the public prosecutor's office stands somewhat higher than the state organs it controls, including the examining judge. Naturally, that does not apply to the public prosecutor in the main proceedings, to his second role as district attorney; there he is just one of the two sides.

SPIEGEL: The prosecutor's dual function will mean an imbalance to his benefit. At least it seems contradictory that you have administrative acts controlled by courts now, while maintaining general legal supervision by the prosecutors.

Kudryavtsev: The prosecutor is not allowed to decide anything. He can only appeal to a court.

Savitskiy: What is important for the whole thing is the neutralization of the executive's power in case it runs wild.

SPIEGEL: The control over the observance of the Constitution is currently in the hands of the Supreme Soviet, your parliament, which is the "highest body" of national power according to the Constitution. Would it not be better if that task—understanding law from an enlightened viewpoint—were performed by the Supreme Court, or even better by a constitutional court?

Savitskiy: I believe that control over the Constitution should be established in the environment of the Supreme Court. A special constitutional court system may take shape there in the course of time.

SPIEGEL: Soviet jurists are increasingly talking about the "socialist constitutional state." The first paragraph of the 1977 Constitution only mentions a "socialist state." Why the new accent?

Savitskiy: That term has actually been used in public discussions for a short time. By a socialist state, we mean a state that creates acts, is directed by them, and submits itself to them.

SPIEGEL: Many European legal orders are in the tradition of the enlightenment. Speaking in terms of constitutional law, that means: separation of national powers. Is the USSR experiencing a belated enlightenment now?

Savitskiy: Our doctrine and our practice do not contradict Aristotle's and Montesquieu's teachings. The separation of powers, according to the classical understanding, means that the legislative, the executive, and the judicial powers are separated from one another and balance one another more or less. We Marxists regard that as an illusion. Power is always exerted by the respective ruling class exclusively and in all areas.

What we think important is a wise division of work within the state, while responsibilities are not mixed—for example, that the executive does not interfere in legislation or the judiciary. Unfortunately, that happened in our country in the past. Our current democratization seeks to prevent such a thing. If you think that process is a caught-up enlightenment—you may do so.

SPIEGEL: Nothing works in the USSR without the party, and nothing works against the party. According to the Constitution, it is "the leading and directing force of Soviet society, the core of its political system." But that party can make mistakes: It has made mistakes, and it will make mistakes in the future—that is what its general secretary, the lawyer Mikhail Gorbachev, said. How can a law, as much reformed as it may be, ever effectively control that owner of the monopoly of power?

Kudryavtsev: The only guarantee against such mistakes is the participation of the people, as comprehensive as possible, in exerting power. History teaches little else.

Savitskiy: We pursue a difficult path with our democratization. We still have not reached the summit, but we will not go back to the starting point. Perestroyka has changed the atmosphere too much for such a return. It is that atmosphere that will change society more than any legal regulations.

SPIEGEL: Professor Kudryavtsev, Professor Savitskiy, thank you for the interview.

Battle Against Uzbek 'Mafia' Described

PM261221 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jan 88 Second Edition p 3

[Special correspondent G. Ovcharenko report: "Cobras Guarding the Gold. Long and Hard Struggle Against Organized Crime in Uzbekistan by Investigation Group From the USSR Prosecutor's Office"— boldface as published]

[Text] **Uzbek SSR—"Here, right here," Said poked the ground before the next elm bush and suddenly went as white as a sheet: A huge cobra raised its head above the sand, its neck swelling into a sinister hood. Their feet reacted faster than their brains: In a fraction of a second they had put a safe distance between themselves and the snake. The cobra froze in position, ready to strike like lightning at anyone who stepped forward.**

"That was all we needed," Bakhtiyar Abdurakhimov muttered in Uzbek. There were good reasons to feel annoyed. While planning an operation to confiscate valuables from the former first secretary of a party raykom in Kashka-Darya Oblast, they had made a mistake: They believed the detainee when he told them that he had stashed with his brother a small part—some R250,000—of the bribes he had taken, and the three of them had gone to confiscate the sum.

The secretary's brother handed the money over with suspicious ease.

"That's not enough," Albert Kartashyan decided to "fish out" some information. "Where's the rest?"

"There's nothing else," the host spread his hands. "Some people came from my brother, took it away."

Bakhtiyar and his comrades exchanged glances: A familiar situation—at the slightest sign of danger the cache is split into many parts and distributed among relatives and trusted associates. It is like looking for a needle in a haystack. They could only regret that they had not taken along any of the criminal investigation experts from V. Antonov's group, whose instruments make it possible to literally look underground and see through walls. There were only the three of them, and every minute of their time was really worth its weight in gold.

...By the end of their second day without sleep or food, they had managed to confiscate a few more millions. The only one left was someone by the name of Said, quite a young guy who, according to the brother of the former raykom first secretary, had stashed away a sizable sum.

They set up an ambush around Said's home. At dawn, when their eyelids were growing heavy, Bakhtiyar noticed a shadow silently creeping down from the knoll toward the house. It was Said returning on his motorcycle, with lights and motor switched off. Afterwards he led them all over the desert, from one elm bush to another, and they started feeling that there would be no end to it all, that they were simply being "taken for a ride." They had shifted cubic meters of sand by hand before arriving at the place now guarded by the cobra.

"I swear by the bread I eat, it wasn't there," Said assured them. "It must have been attracted by the gold."

Somehow they managed to chase the snake away. In a bag were valuables worth another R300,000. Once back in the car, the guys fell asleep right away, but Bakhtiyar recalled some folk legends. According to them, gold attracts snakes and greedy and treacherous people whose ways are worse than the cobra's. That's how it is, Abdurakhimov thought to himself as he dropped off to sleep....

Back in the summer of 1983 T. Gdlyan, investigator for particularly important cases under the USSR prosecutor general, was instructed to get a group together and fly to Bukhara. Militia Lieutenant Colonel A. Muzaffarov, chief of the Oblast Internal Affairs Department's Struggle Against Embezzlement of Socialist Property and Speculation Department, had been caught red-handed there by KGB staffers while receiving a bribe of R1,000. Operational data indicated that a gang of extortionists, tightly knit like a ball of snakes, was operating in Bukhara Oblast. By the time the investigating group arrived, A. Dustov, chief of the Oblast Internal Affairs Department, Sh. Kudratov, director of the Bukhara City Trading Organization for Trade in Industrial Goods, and D. Sharipov, chief of the Oblast Material and Technical Supply Department of the republican Gossnab, had been arrested. The work awaiting Telman Khorenovich and his colleagues was not simple, but all the same, it was their usual work: investigating and identifying the bribe-takers' criminal ties, exposing the mechanism used to accumulate the funds concealed from the state, systematically collecting evidence proving the guilt of each accused person, and referring the case for trial. Nobody imagined at the time that everything was much more complex and that the threads from Bukhara would stretch all over Uzbekistan and its capital. Back at that time the Uzbek SSR was making a splash in the press and on television with above-plan cotton production running

into hundreds of thousands of tonnes, and the republic's leaders hardly had time to pierce holes in their suit coats for the awards with which they were showered.

The cotton affair broke suddenly and loudly in Uzbekistan, like a bolt from the blue. The newspapers were full of exposes: The state had paid Uzbekistan for nonexistent cotton. Cotton production reports had been inflated by almost 1 million tonnes each year. This helped to explain the paradox: Cotton harvests were increasing while textile production was falling. This was followed by a sensational trial which ended with the supreme penalty being passed on the former republican minister of the cotton industry and other organizers of the affair, and the case also involved proceedings against hundreds of other people.

Gdlyan watched the trial and fumed:

"Did no one in the republic apart from the organizers of the affair see the inflated reporting? No party officials, no soviet organs, no law enforcement organs? Why involve so many people? To boost the figures? It's clear that most of them were backed into a corner! The main point is this: Where is the money, where are the valuables? Billions were stolen, and only peanuts recovered. This is the basis for new crimes!"

"I think that our group will have to answer these questions," Nikolay Ivanov, Gdlyan's deputy for the Bukhara investigation, said calmly.

Nikolay Veniaminovich had just returned from arresting Karimov, former first secretary of the Bukhara Uzbek Communist Party Gorkom. Now republican deputy minister of land reclamation and water resources, Karimov had not changed his habits. On the very first day of an official trip to Karshi, he celebrated by organizing a mammoth binge and gift-presentation session at the ministry's "hospitality" cottage in the countryside. The operations group waited until the guests had left. They knocked on the lodge door at 0600 hours.

"Personal package for Karimov," Ivanov said. The guard, used to guests arriving at any time, let him pass.

The door was opened by the half-drunk Karimov, who stretched out his hands for the package and felt the handcuffs snap around his wrists.

"What's that for?"

"You know very well what it is for," Ivanov said reproachfully.

"Oh, I see, I see," Karimov drooped.

As soon as they had turned the corner, the operations group members changed the car's license plate. Not a moment too soon. The guard, surprised by the master's early departure, raised the alarm: Karimov has been kidnapped! He reported to the State Automobile Inspectorate the license number of the car in which Ivanov had driven away with the former obkom first secretary. It is hard to say what the end would have been had Karimov's stooges caught up with the car carrying him.

Those are not empty words. The real situation in Uzbekistan in those years was such that it is possible, without any exaggeration, to speak of a deviation from socialism by oblast and republican "bosses," those latter-day emirs, and of their trampling all norms of law and morality. In their pursuit of the golden calf, having lost authority among the people, they kept their snouts in the money-making trough of power only through illegality. Corrupting both the economy and morality, they reduced the republic to a state of slow and painful decay whereby the norm was extortion, bribery, and the fusion of a large proportion of personnel of law enforcement, party, and soviet organs with the criminal world.

Today it has been proved that the cotton magnates stole more than R4 billion from the state, and one-half of this amount went to line their own pockets. Add to this the many millions embezzled in the spheres of republican trade, consumer services, and silk production, which were brought to light by Gdlyan's investigation group jointly with staffers of Internal Affairs organs, and it becomes clear that it is a matter of a well established system of organized crime whereby each stolen ruble is put to some further use. Large amounts are spent to bribe officials, other sums are used to expand criminal ventures: The number of so-called managers [tsekhovik] owning underground private enterprise firms grows year by year, like a spreading cancer; the rest of the money is spent on "la dolce vita" and on stashing gold in secret hideaways.

Racketeering also emerged in the republic: Large-scale blackmail and extortion implemented, as the encyclopedic dictionary says, by the use of threats and violence. The racketeers shook the underground millionaires like walnut trees in the fall, and ultimately the millionaires started admitting the gangsters to their "shady" business and using them as their personal bodyguards. Hired killers in Uzbekistan were not a product of the imagination. They struck primarily at those who tried to break the vicious circle of corruption. Today, for example, it has been conclusively established that a high-ranking official organized an attempt on Gdlyan's life. But he failed. Warned by his patrons of his impending arrest, he committed suicide. Therefore the precautions taken by putting steel bracelets on Karimov's wrists were not superfluous.

...It was only during the first few months that the USSR Prosecutor's Office investigation group worked in more or less normal conditions. People cooperated until it started treading on the toes of the mafia "godfathers." The godfathers carefully followed the investigation's progress and did not bother to protect the so-called small fry. They even seethed with ostentatious indignation

when they learned, for example, that the very same Muzaffarov, chief of the Struggle Against Embezzlement of Socialist Property and Speculation Department, personally protected workers from the Bukhara City Trading Organization for Trade in Industrial Goods who were selling goods at inflated prices in the market. Or that one party raykom first secretary, when compelling kolkhoz chairmen to engage in exaggerated reporting or bribery, would force them to hold heavy weights above their heads until they either gave in or collapsed with exhaustion. Or that Kudratov, chief of the Bukhara City Trading Organization for Trade in Industrial Goods, used to beat up any of his subordinates who dared to object whenever he impudently collected his daily payoff in the store.

The situation changed drastically following Karimov's arrest. It became clear that Gdlyan's group would go all the way. Repeated attempts to bribe the investigators—"I'll give you a million if my case can be heard by an Uzbek court"—produced no results. Nor did the threats of physical violence. A number of leadership officials were detained over a 5-year period, including former secretaries of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, first secretaries of party obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms, the chairman of the republican Council of Ministers, a deputy chairman of the Uzbek Supreme Soviet Presidium, the administrator of affairs of the party Central Committee, a USSR first deputy minister of internal affairs, Uzbekistan's minister of internal affairs and three of his deputies, chiefs of oblast internal affairs departments, and soviet and economic officials.

You would think that organized crime in Uzbekistan had been dealt a crushing blow. Especially in view of the fact that Rashidovism was condemned from the republic's highest rostrum and it was declared that the Central Committee Bureau had been hypnotized, so to speak, and had been unable to oppose the illegalities, abuses, and violations of socialist morality. Now, people said, an end will be resolutely put to all this.

But the investigation conducted by Gdlyan, Ivanov, and their comrades under the leadership of Investigation Section Chief G. Karakozov and Deputy General Prosecutor A. Katusev showed that the situation in the republic is hardly changing. As before, it was very difficult even to question various officials, who use deputy's immunity as a shield against justice, and the bribe-takers and embezzlers still felt they enjoyed the same impunity as before. There were even instances of some of them taking new bribes literally 10 minutes after being questioned. But the main point was that there was jesuitical pressure on witnesses who, until that point, had voluntarily testified how bribes were extorted from them and how they were forced to inflate reports and conceal what was plundered by others. Despite the fact that the USSR Prosecutor's Office granted these people immunity from criminal proceedings and asked that this fact be taken into consideration in the matter of party and administrative punishment, they began to be expelled from the party and dismissed from work in Bukhara Oblast. By contrast, those who did not testify in the investigation enjoyed tranquil prosperity. Gdlyan and other officials from the group roamed the republic trying to convince people that their punishment would be reduced if they gave evidence for the prosecution—but everything turned out differently in reality....

Meanwhile, voices could be heard from the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee: What has this group been doing for 5 years now? Isn't it time it closed its cases? Enough, they said, of "terrorizing the people." Telman Khorenovich was fed up with trying to prove that the situation and the moral microclimate in the republic could be corrected not by just pruning the leaves of crime but only by pulling it out by the roots. Who knows how this confrontation would have ended had the investigation group's stance not been backed by the CPSU Central Committee. Today the investigation is drawing to a close, even though the group still has much work to do yet.

But even more work has to be done by Uzbekistan's party organization to explain and reveal the reasons why a handful of renegades managed to iniquitously call the shots, pervert the principles of socialism for selfish purposes, ruin the republic's economy, and mock people. Not even the criminals deny that this was actually the case. This is what they said at the investigation:

"Crimes like bribery, inflated reporting, and embezzlement became the norm in Uzbekistan. There was no real struggle against them. Furthermore, all this was justified and camouflaged by traditional hospitality and the need to fulfill the plan. This was done by leaders not only at oblast but also at republic level."

"No issue was resolved without bribery. Anyone who paid bribes received bribes from everyone else. The alternatives were: Either resign or live according to the criminals' laws. There was absolutely no objectivity, party-mindedness, or proper order in mutual relations and production affairs."

"There was widespread greed, abuse of official position for selfish purposes, lack of control, immorality, mutual protection and bribery, lack of principledness, local favoritism and nepotism, stifling of subordinates' initiative, and toadying to higher authorities."

"The mafia would stoop to anything, even tacit agreement to the activation of Islam, which, as everyone knows, preaches obedience and nonresistance to seniors in rank and age."

Of course, this "candidness" was stemmed from fear that they would have to pay for what they had done. Until these rogues were behind bars, their thoughts were about other things. Their way of acting and thinking was also different. Like any ordinary thief or swindler, they were concerned only about making money, and about power,

since power for them was primarily a means for getting rich. They sank to extreme levels of degradation in their pursuit of riches. One former secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, for example, turned gifts into money by selling the presents he had been offered through the republican Council of Ministers store: He sold R14,000 of vodka, robes, fur hats via this channel....

Today the criminals are approaching relatives and trusted associates, begging them to return to the state the money and valuables stashed with them. They hope to buy their way out of trouble. After all, giving evidence for the prosecution and voluntary restitution of material damage may, of course, influence the court's sentence. But what about other matters—the republic's economy, people's broken faith in social justice?

I spent a week as member of the investigation group. I joined V. Kravchenko, I. Ibragimov, O. Litvak, L. Panteleyeva, Yu. Vlasov, and other investigators in interrogations and traveled with them on missions to confiscate wealth made through bribes, inflated reporting, and extortion. I will certainly never be able to forget one particular episode.

...We drove out to the village at night, stopped by a house that was still under construction, and woke up the owners—a young guy and his pregnant wife. There were three small children asleep on some pitiful homemade bed. The house was cold and poor. Bread and water—this is what the family subsists on in order to meet the high expenses: The house in which they live has been under construction for over a year, and their earnings from the kolkhoz are not all that high. I felt uncomfortable: Why have we come here, what riches are there here? The house owner kept repeating worriedly:

"No! There's nothing, no..."

But suddenly two sealed trunks were brought out of a closet. They contained 10 leather coats, some of them fur-lined, rolls of imported textiles, and packages with rings, money, and jewelry inside. The woman's eyes almost popped out: She had never before seen anything like it. But what terrified me most was not the amazement at the sight of riches, at the fact that someone could actually hide them away to rot, but the slavish fear in the eyes of those young Uzbeks: How could they explain it all to the "boss"? It was like the fear in a rabbit's eyes before it is swallowed by a boa constrictor. This fear cannot in any way be justified by those who deliberately implanted and cultivated it.

Corruption, lawlessness, and the organized ranks of professional criminals brought into being by them... They look at us with the merciless eyes of a cobra raising its venomous head above gold hidden away from the state. Move just one step—and...

But this step must be taken and the cobra must be crushed.

Armenian Church Leader Vazgen Profiled

PM281411 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 4, 24 Jan 88 p 16

[Interview with Armenian Catholicos Vazgen I by Natalya Kraminova: "The 130th Catholicos of All Armenians"]

[Text] In November 1920 the Red Army returned to Armenia its independence and statehood lost 1,000 years ago. An ancient high-level civilization, which was to vanish like Atlantis, held out on the earth.

In Armenia there is a special attitude towards churches. People who believe in God and those who don't come to functioning temples and bring their children and guests. Any person, even not very literate, without mixing up chronology will tell you about historic events, both connected with this cathedral and not. One begins to realize that history is infused in the Armenian people's blood. And a church for them is not only and not so much a building in which to pray. It is a place where the nation realizes over and over again: we are Armenians. We have survived. We have won. [passage omitted]

The residence of Vazgen I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, is situated behind the Cathedral, blending into a single architectural style. On the ground floor is the office and living rooms of His Holiness. On the first floor there is a hall for receiving the heads of other churches, a conference hall, a small picture gallery displaying gifts from artists from different countries and three safes which are like three marvellous little museums: the Armenian alphabet; the coat-of-arms of Soviet Armenia; the Armenian cross. All are made of pure gold strewn with precious stones, but workmanship is so delicate and clever that one admires it more than the glitter of the original material.

The office of His Holiness resembles a scientist's study—simple, spacious and with many books in various languages, although these are only the volumes permanently needed for work. I was told that he is writing and editing himself everything important. He speaks Romanian, French and German fluently, naturally knows Old Armenian—the language of divine services. Even by appearance he looks like a scientist whose prestige is indisputable. Unless you know that the Catholicos is in front of you, you may think that he is a professor whom students love. (Later on, to my question: "What profession he would have chosen had he not been elected the head of the Armenian Apostolic Church", he replied: "I would rather be a teacher. When I was young, I taught Armenian children and liked pedagogics very much.")

One would not expect that it is so simple to talk to him. With his friendly intonation and well-disposed nature he helps remove inner tension which he can spot easily. By

the way, there is hardly anything which this well-educated, wise and handsome man, who has lived in this world for about 80 years, does not understand. In Armenia I was told that all people, young and old know and respect him.

This is achieved neither by rank nor by order. [passage omitted]

Does the Catholicos believe in the purification of society? Does he consider it possible to forgive the sin of denunciation, slander and malicious conviction of an innocent?

He thinks and then says confidently: "I believe that society has embarked upon the road of moral improvement. The main thing is to do everything so that past mistakes are never repeated."

Did the Armenian Church suffer during the years of the Stalin personality cult?

"The period of the Stalin personality cult was a misfortune for all. The real socialist ideas—Lenin's teaching—were distorted. It is a pity that Lenin died so early. He could have lived much longer.... But the period of sufferings was a long time ago. Today relations between the church and the government mean mutual trust and mutual understanding. There is no example which would prove the opposite."

The Catholicos did not mention that on the first day after the news about the Chernobyl accident the Armenian Apostolic Church sent R150,000 for the victims. He also did not mention the aid the Church sent to neighbouring Georgia during the natural disaster there last year. Other people told me about that. The Catholicos least of all thinks about repercussions from such actions. "In such deeds we see the duty of Christians and the citizens of the Soviet Union"—this was his only comment.

And still, are there, in his opinion, problems in the life of the church?

"Under the Constitution of the USSR, citizens are guaranteed freedom of conscience. But a simple proclamation of this principle does not solve all problems. Additional legal guarantees to ensure its accurate fulfilment are needed."

Today such words as "repentance" and "insight" have re-entered the society's vocabulary. What is his opinion about this? "I think that Christ's message can help people today at least in the teaching of self-discipline." [passage omitted]

Historian Warns Against 'Nationalist Dreams'

AU271356 Kiev RADKYANSKA UKRAINA in Ukrainian 22 Jan 88 p 3

[Article by Doctor of Historical Sciences L. Nahorna: "The Field of Our Friendship—Nationality Relations in the USSR: Some Problems of Theory and Practice"—boldface as published]

[Excerpts] The achievements of socialism, which have enriched the treasury of world civilization, include the socialist method of solving the nationality problem, and the spirit of friendship and fraternal cooperation established in nationality relations. The elimination of all types of racial and national oppression, the creation of a new type of nations and of a new type of relations among them, creation of a united Soviet people are generally recognized achievements of the policy—internationalist in its spirit and nature—pursued by the CPSU. Our party was the first in history to prove that relations among nationalities can be based on the principles of mutual confidence, equality, and cooperation, and on the absence of any national privileges. [passage omitted]

Our country's achievements in settling the nationality problem are indisputable. The dialectic of life does not call for a customary list of these achievements, but for an attentive and critical view on the entire sphere of nationality relations, for an answer to a number of painful questions. Where are the roots of those incidents that took place in Alma-Ata, in the Baltic and other regions of the country? Why did entire republics and regions fall into the captivity of free-ride mentality? Why did they face the problem of the degeneration [pererodzhennya] of a significant number of cadres, and the problem of the growing petit bourgeois element? What were the reasons for the revival of some archaic, reactionary traditions and customs? Why did the efforts of thousands of social scientists engaged in research into nationality problems not produce real results?

There is no categorical answer to these questions. Obviously, all that happened because, in the changeable and dynamic nationality sphere, there are no achievements that last forever. Prominently ranking among those "real contradictions," which are the motivating force of any progress, are contradictions inherent in national development, and they have to be noticed and settled as early as possible. Also, the results of the impetuous development in the first Soviet decades, the miscalculations and errors incurred in the pursuit of the nationality policy make themselves distinctly felt here. [passage omitted]

There were two extremes that could have resulted from this. On the one hand, there was national nihilism in a certain sector of the population, the inability to respect national values, and to cherish the best traditions of the past. On the other, there was the revival of nationalist sentiments, and the attempts made by various extremist elements to use them and to organize incidents. Some people are quite openly trying to take advantage of the

glasnost and the conditions of democratization to upset friendship among the Soviet peoples, to foment passions, and even to organize subversive anti-Soviet acts. In a number of republics, including the Ukraine, behind the screen of informal associations attempts are being made to profit by the lack of experience among young people, and to entangle them in the meshes of nationalist dreams.

It is impossible to miss the shrewd attempts of bourgeois propaganda to make use of the contradictory processes of the growing national consciousness. The recent events in the Baltic Region proved beyond a doubt that, in trying to broaden the channels of infiltration into the socialist countries, bourgeois conspirators would not stop short of a direct interference in the internal affairs of the sovereign Soviet republics, and that they were assiduously elaborating and disseminating with the assistance of "radio voices" scenarios for anti-Soviet shows. The U.S. Congress is allocating large funds for organizing antisocialist actions, including those aimed directly against our republic. Their "technology" is, as a rule, simple: after all, any tragedy in the lives of peoples can be proclaimed as one "planned" in advance. For example, when bourgeois "Sovietologists" touch upon the bitter chapter of the 1933 famine, this calamity turns into an act of reprisals "organized" in advance against the Ukrainian people. When they speak about the accident at the Chernobyl AES, it proves to be planned anti-Ukrainian "ecocide."

Of course, the possibilities of bourgeois propaganda must not be overestimated. The level of the political culture and internationalist consciousness of the Soviet people is so high that nationalist subversions are rebuffed as unanimously as, for example, the November incidents in Riga. But benevolence in the treatment of any manifestations of national narrow-mindedness, of nationalism and chauvinism must not be tolerated either.

In its nationality policy, the party is invariably loyal to the Leninist tradition: to be sensitive and cautious in everything concerning the development of nationality relations, national interests, and national sentiments, and at the same time to be firm and to adhere to principles in combatting national arrogance, parochialism, and parasitic mentality. [passage omitted]

The key to new successes in the nationality policy lies in consistent internationalism, and in creating an efficacious mechanism of communication between social scientists, on the one hand, and party, administrative, and economic functionaries at various levels, on the other. Deserving attention is the proposal to create an all-union scientific center to guide and coordinate the efforts of scientists and practical workers studying international and national problems.

The entire history of the USSR, whose 65th anniversary we recently commemorated, is the struggle for the consolidation of the great principles and ideals of proletarian internationalism. The revolutionary spirit of restructuring binds us to wage this struggle even more energetically and persistently.

New Approach to History, Its Study Urged

PM271935 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jan 88 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "History and Morality. Why We Are Referring to the Past"]

[Text] History is irreversible and follows its own objective laws. This is one of the basic truths of Marxism-Leninism. But another basic truth is that man is not a passive cog in the complex mechanism of society or a programmed robot. He is not only capable of great feats and high moral thoughts, he also has his weaknesses and makes mistakes—sometimes tragic. The course and direction of social development depend on him. He bears moral responsibility before the court of history.

That is why, when pondering today on the past years of our socialist development, it is impossible not to see how complicated and unstraightforward our path into the unknown future has been. But this is our history. The great triumphs and bitter failures belong to us all.

To forget history or to use just a "convenient" part of it is tantamount to damaging the moral atmosphere of society and the task of educating Soviet people, particularly young people. It is essential that we have a thorough, comprehensive knowledge of the whole of our country's history, particularly since the October Revolution. After all, without this knowledge—of our enormous achievements and the reasons for our mistakes—we cannot draw lessons for the present and the future. When referring to the past, it is wrong to exalt or denigrate certain figures. We must give the people their due. But we also must not demagogically hide behind the name of the people and pass off our own ideas as "popular wisdom."

It is also immoral to assess the past from the standpoint of an observer in the wings, guided by the principles of abstract morality. An aware, principled person must not forget his own part in history and in the events, say, of our recent past. A sense of one's own infallibility merely results in attempts to expose others, hastily rewrite history to the advantage of immediate interests, and pursue sensationalism.

It is also inadmissible to consider history in an objectivist manner—as a code of dead knowledge and truths that are beyond question. Each new generation enriches history and reinterprets the past from the standpoint of the present. The main task in this respect is to ensure the

honest presentation of material, a clear-cut Marxist-Leninist analysis, and party-mindedness. We need real dialectics rather than violent swings from white to black and vice versa and the substitution of one half-truth with another.

The lesson of the past is that nothing damages the moral atmosphere of society as much as the distortion of historical truth, theoretical errors, or the hushing up of entire stages. This results in losses in ideology and spiritual culture. The past must be considered objectively and scientifically and interpreted in all its entirety and integrity. In historical science dogmatism and formalism, "universal" meaningless abstractions, and didactic maxims must be decisively abandoned. We must show history's many colors and layers and be bolder in revealing how human initiative is apparent in every concrete action.

The task of preserving historical memory is not only a task for science. The party, the Soviet state, and the Soviet public are the upholders of historical and cultural values, and this is in the spirit of Leninist traditions. It is our high moral duty to take with us into the future everything valuable that we have inherited from the past—and in its original, undistorted form. We must not destroy historical relics by hiding behind concern for those living now. They are an important source of communist civilization's moral health and spiritual strength. The Soviet Culture Foundation and other social organizations play a large role in preserving our cultural and historical wealth.

Literature and art are increasingly boldly invading the sphere of history. This is understandable and justified. After all, they are called upon to respond vividly to the vital needs of the times and of society's spiritual life, and to react sensitively to "sore points." Artistic creation is capable of rising above the present, of making social, moral, and temporal assessments in a broader context. It is important here to bear in mind the tremendous responsibility of the artist and the scale of his influence on social consciousness. Any denigration of the ideals of freedom, progress, and democracy, any poetic exaltation of the reactionary elements of the past, any crude distortion of facts—these are impermissible. A work of art is created in accordance with its own laws, and the criteria used to assess a scientific treatise cannot always be applied to it. The main thing is its ideological and emotional impact, its contribution to the improvement of the moral and spiritual climate in society, its contribution to the cause of restructuring.

Reflecting on the moral problems of present-day society and confronting instances of spiritual aridity, lawlessness, and corruption, certain people with an unstable world outlook are trying to prove that in the past it was the church which combated evil; they are calling for a return to religious morality and seeking examples to be followed in the history of the church. Such sentiments are in particular being revived in connection with the upcoming millenium of the Christianization of Russia. It is necessary to explain this event from scientific Marxist-Leninist positions, without embellishment or abuse. It must be pointed out that it was not religion which provided people with the standards which are now universally applied. They were elaborated by the people's masses in the course of their centuries-long struggle against the inhumanity and immorality of the exploiter system.

History is a sphere of acute ideological struggle. Today our enemies are trying to exploit any anniversary, use any pretext, in order to call into question the viability and gains of socialism, without shrinking from fabrications or outright distortion of the facts. Therefore it is necessary in the course of ideological work to reveal more fully and convincingly the tremendous achievements and potential of our system, to reveal its accomplishments. It is important to discern the true meaning of the propaganda attacks of the enemy and to counter them vigorously and resolutely, making use of glasnost and the weapon of truth.

The party has always rated highly the educational role of our history, regarding it as a way to ensure continuity and a spiritual link between generations. The increasing role of historical consciousness in the life of society makes it necessary to ensure a new, higher standard of the teaching and study of history in schools, VUZ's, and the system of Marxist-Leninist education and an improvement in the quality of syllabi and textbooks. In particular it is a question of setting out historical facts convincingly, vividly, interestingly, and from clear-cut world-outlook positions, in close linkage with the present day.

The study of the history of the CPSU demands special attention. It is impermissible to transform the history of the party of Lenin, of millions of Communists who devoted their lives to the struggle for the most noble of ideals, into a dry sketch. To write a good, truthful book about the history of the CPSU is a great cause. The moral and civic responsibility of an artist or scientist increases manyfold when it comes to Leniniana, to the depiction of V.I. Lenin's image, his life and work! What is needed here is a carefully considered analysis; even the smallest inaccuracies, distortions, or deviations from the truth are impermissible. The study of the rich annals of the Communist Party and the Soviet people, the depiction of the inseparable link between different ages and of the sources of the progressive traditions which to this day nurture our society with life-giving strength—this is the key precondition of instilling great, unfading spiritual and moral values.

Learning from the lessons of history—this is how V.I. Lenin posed the task. History is a very rich science. The more we refer to it the better we understand what must be done today, and every day that we live will become history tomorrow.

Lenin's Ideas on Press Freedom Described

AU241503 Sofia ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME in Bulgarian 21 Jan 88 pp 1,3

[Article by Valentin Chikin, editor in chief of SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, "specially written for ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME:" "Re-Reading Lenin"—boldface as published]

[Text] Whenever a revolution is aiming at a great upsurge and its success appears inevitable, particular vigilance is required to preserve the purity of the revolutionary principles. At precisely such moments, the true revolutionaries are usually surrounded by numerous, "concerned" false brethren; all kinds of servile advisers; hostile critics; and "pilots" who are very well aware of the hidden reefs, that the ship of revolution, sailing at full speed, may possibly hit. The more brightly the image of the Bolshevik October Revolution appears on the horizon, the more eloquent become the alluring voices of the bourgeois and opportunistic sirens. They sing sweet songs of "freedom", "equality," and "fraternity," they proclaim "democracy" and "justice." The more correctly the cause of the proletariat is implemented, the more frequently the sirens transform themselves into mourners. **The famous "intelligentsia" provides an infinite number of mourners in such times.** How many tears have already been shed for the consolidation of Soviet fraternity and equality, for socialist democracy and justice!

However, the workers, who built up Soviet power with their own hands, do not believe in such tears. They say: **We do not recognize either freedom, or equality, or labor democracy, if they stand in contradiction to the liberation of labor from capitalism.** Those empty phrases are merely dust in one's eyes. Therefore, let us take a look at what lies **at the basis of these phrases.**

Of course, social demagogues are no simpletons. The class enemy is subtle—otherwise there would not be so many **victims of lies and of self-deception in politics.** They manage to create the illusion of the "people's will" from the common voting of capitalists and workers; they manage to create the art of government from many centuries of experience and the advantages of special training... and even succeed in recruiting advocates for their ideological expansion.

However, no advocate's shading was able to confuse Vladimir Ilich. In his evaluations he had long since been guided by the rule for investigation (and he advised others to follow his example): **it is not that important who the direct defenders of such views are, the important thing is to know whose advantage such views, proposals, and measures serve....**

Before World War I, Lenin wrote on this subject in PRAVDA. In recalling the ancient Latin saying "to whose advantage" (this was the title of his article), he discussed the era of businessmen, when business prevailed and the bourgeoisie unashamedly traded with human decency and with conscience, being capable of "hiring" any... **number of lawyers, writers, and even members of parliament, priests, and others.** Lenin drew attention at the fact that people in "civilized" countries were engaging in a wild steeple-chase for the sake of rearmament, and that from speakers' rostrums and in newspapers, appeals for patriotism and for the values of culture, for peace, and progress were launched in thousands of different key notes.... **Gentlemen of the public! Regarding all these phrases from "patriots," I would like to tell you: Do not believe them; rather, watch whose advantage they may serve!**

Thus, the point lies not in the "good intentions" of the phrasemongers, but in the true significance of the policy they conduct, that is, what stems from it, for whom is it advantageous, and whose flour is actually being ground in the mill.

The "Myasnikov" episode that emerged 4 years after the October Revolution gave Vladimir Ilich an opportunity to express his opinion on the sharply speculative question of "freedom of press".

G. Myasnikov, a 32-year-old worker who acted as an agitator against party policy, expressed his views in an extensive memorandum, and later in an article entitled: "The Burning Questions." Vladimir Ilich considered it necessary to write a detailed letter in which he thoroughly analyzed these documents inspired by hysterical excitement and panic:

The champion of unrestricted democracy demands "freedom of the press for everyone, including monarchists and anarchists." What for—excuse me—for what kind of freedom of the press? Is this not the same as exists under capitalism? Yes, **under capitalism there is the freedom to purchase newspapers, but also to buy the writers themselves, to bribe, to buy and to shape public opinion to the advantage of the bourgeosie, and this is a fact.** You propose that we should grant them such opportunities on RSFSR territory? I am sure that they will not spare any means to purchase the necessary "force" and will **establish centers of political organization.** No, we do not intend to **facilitate the actions of the enemy.**

You are irritated by the "numerous outrages and abuses" and you think that "the freedom of the press will unmask them." ...We should not be naive!

Yes, it is true that we suffer from many disorders. With the want and misfortunes arising from the ruin of war, and starvation also hounds us. Shortcomings are also evident in the economy (**enormous shortcomings!**) All this exacerbated the situation.... Should we call in nonparty people to control the situation? Should we revive the soviets? We should do so by all means. **There is a tremendous amount of work to be done.** Why do you not

engage in exhaustive work in a businesslike manner? Why should we not prosecute malpractices through the party press? Have you ever thought of pointing out the shortcomings in a comradely manner by telling us: **Look here, there are such and such abuses, and this the way to eliminate them. You never did so, not even once. You just stood by and watched a series of evils and disorders develop and, overcome by despair, cast yourselves into the arms of foreigners.**

We, however, are fully aware of **all disorders. We try to cure them systematically and consistently, without falling into panic.** We are by no means trying to present the situation in a more favorable light, we are not concealing the existing difficulties; we even publicize and denounce cases that we find particularly painful, such as the cases when the food supply squads commit malpractices.... However, we are clearly aware of the logic in the development of our life. **For every 100 of our shortcomings**—as was already pointed out in the letter to the American workers—**there are 10,000 great and heroic deeds—which are even more glorious and heroic because they are ordinary, invisible and concealed in the everyday life of the factory district or the remote village, accomplished by people who are not accustomed to... loudly proclaiming every one of their successes to the whole world.**

Even if the balance of the shortcomings to the heroic deeds had been the reverse, this would not have diminished the people's creative deeds. Every fault we commit is at the cost of numerous "faultless" successes on the part of the exploiters. This is why **the workers and peasants are learning to build up their new life through such mistakes.**

Vladimir Ilich saw that a reliable means for defending the revolution's achievements and confirming the vital socialist ideal would be to find **in our own surrounding society and [passage illegible] for militant forces of a kind that were able—and, due to their own social position, obliged—to constitute a force capable of sweeping away the old and creating the new.**

In one of his first post-October addresses to the people, the chairman of the Sovnarkom made this appeal to the workers, soldiers, peasants, and all men of labor: **Take all power into the hands of your soviets.** Preserve and guard **as your most cherished possessions the land, grain, factories, weapons, products, and transportation—from now on all this will entirely be your own common national property.** Lenin called on the people to exercise self-management and called for everyday practical government by the people. And he gave the warning: **No one will help you unless you unite yourselves and take all affairs of state into your own hands.**

It seemed to us that it was a "simple" matter to manage, as one does one's own home, a people's factory or farm, a store or a route. Yet how many steps, as it turned out, did everyone have to take within his own soul to raise himself from being merely the owner of his own two hands, capable of working only with the hammer or the sickle, to the consciousness of being a co-owner of the people's enterprise and a comrade-in-arms in honest, self-sacrificing labor, in order to sense the power of his labor, the strength of his own economic accountability, and the lasting nature of the law that he had accepted with his heart.

Vladimir Ilich saw more clearly than anyone the incredible complexity of this internal restructuring within man, his unnoticed internal advance toward a new intellectual and social state; he realistically perceived that this radical change in the consciousness of millions would be immeasurably more difficult to achieve than the overturning of thrones and the expulsion of the landowners and capitalists. However, he was full of optimism, full of faith in the people. He boldly entrusted them with the power for them to be enlightened and to organize themselves for the struggle. The socialist redistribution begins immediately when man is trusted to think for himself, make decisions, and manage, and he will be strengthened with every practical success.

At the present time, at the initial stage of democratization, the meetings and rallies are in full swing. Some laugh at these events, and others hiss spitefully at them, saying that all this is incongruous, anarchic, and chaotic. However, this is inevitable. What is more, it is beneficial! Surely the holding of rallies is a direct expression of the democratization of the workers. **This represents their reorientation, their awakening to the new life,** their first steps in their career of formulating economic and civic management. But this is an initial stage. Later it will be necessary to consolidate everyday labor discipline in lasting forms.

We must learn how to unite ourselves. From the moment **that socialism ceases to be merely a word and becomes a living cause,** its principles and its program conceptions acquire real, many-faceted significance.

Economic

Goskomstat Report on 1987 Plan Fulfillment

PM241915 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jan 87 First Edition pp 1-3

[USSR State Committee for Statistics report: "On the Paths of Radical Reform. On the Results of the Fulfillment of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR in 1987"—boldface passages as published]

[Text] I. General Economic Indicators of the National Economy's Development [section subhead]

Working people in the Soviet Union, fulfilling the decisions of the 27th party congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums, ensured further growth of social production and of its efficiency in the year of the

70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The people's prosperity was enhanced. The radical economic reform was consistently implemented, the new economic mechanism was being introduced.

Output volume and labor productivity in industry increased in conformity with the planned pace. The fuel and energy and the metallurgy complexes operated steadily. The renewal of machine building output was accelerated. The volume of stock raising output production in the agro-industrial complex is growing. The proportion of funds channeled into the retooling and reconstruction of existing production units increased in capital construction. For the first time in many years, the entire output growth was secured through increased labor productivity without an increase in the number of workers employed in material production sectors.

An active social policy is being consistently implemented. Targets set by the 5-year plan for 1987 regarding the growth of workers' and employees' wages, remuneration of kolkhoz members' labor, social consumption funds, and housing construction were either met or exceeded.

At the same time, some sectors in the national economy failed to overcome their lagging behind the set targets and to ensure steady and stable growth of production. The achievements of science and technology are being implemented only slowly in the national economy. There is still a considerable number of industrial enterprises failing to perform contractual commitments. The financial position of many enterprises and organizations remains strained. There was no fundamental improvement in the work of machine building and light industry last year, especially regarding improved output quality. The population's demand for goods and services is not fully satisfied.

The **growth rate** of the basic indicators of the country's economic and social development in 1987 is characterized by the following figures (in percentages) [In the following table, Column A shows planned percentage increase against 1986 plan, Column B shows actual percentage increase against 1986 plan, and Column C shows percentage increase against actual 1986 level; hyphens preceding figures indicate negative growth]:

	A	B	C
Produced national income	4.1	2.5	2.3
Industrial output—total	4.4	4.4	3.8
of which: production of means of production	4.3	4.8	3.8
production of consumer goods	4.5	3.4	3.8
Agricultural output	2.2	0.2	0.2
Commissioning of fixed capital	4.6	-2.7	5.0
Capital investments	6.0	4.1	4.7
Freight shipments (consignments) by all types of transportation	2.4	3.3	0.7
Passenger turnover on all types of transportation for general use	3.1	5.3	2.5
Social labor productivity	4	2.4	2.4
Number of workers and employees	0.7	0.6	0.4
Profit in the national economy	7.5	6.8	5.0
Wages fund in the national economy	3.9	4.2	3.4
Average monetary wage of workers and employees	3.2	3.5	3
Remuneration of kolkhoz members in public-sector kolkhoz farming	4.0	7.3	2.5
Payments and benefits to the population from social consumption funds	4.9	6.2	4.8
Per capita real incomes	2.6	2.0	2.0
Retail trade turnover in state and cooperative trade (in actual prices)	3.4	-0.3	2.8
of which excluding sales of alcoholic beverages	5.9	4.0	3.3
Paid services to the population	9.5	4.3	8.1
Total area of housing commissioned	7.0	9.3	8.3

The **national income** produced amounted to about R600 billion (in actual prices). The slower pace of its growth against the plan was due to nonfulfillment of targets for savings in material costs, lagging growth of agricultural output, decline in foreign trade revenues, and reduction of alcoholic beverages production.

Gross national product, calculated using standard UN methods and expressing the total income of all enterprises and organizations and the population both in the production and nonproduction spheres, including deduction in respect of depreciation, increased by 3.3% compared with the previous year.

Industrial output increased by R32 billion compared with the previous year and was in excess of R870 billion.

Agricultural output produced was R220.1 billion, which was R18.8 billion or 9.3% more than the average annual total during the 11th 5-Year Plan.

Profits in the national economy increased. There was a fall of the **prime costs** of industrial production and construction and installation work. Some ministries and departments, however, failed to ensure that targets for prime cost reduction were met. About one-fourth of production associations and enterprises in industry and contract construction and installation organizations did not fulfill their financial results plans. The proportion of loss-making industrial enterprises was about 13%.

Foreign trade turnover amounted to R128 billion, including R67 billion of exports and R61 billion of imports. Compared with 1986, the physical volume of foreign trade increased 1%. Its dynamics were adversely affected by the continuing fall of world prices—by 3% in 1987. As a result of this, the volume of foreign trade in current prices was reduced by 2.2% over the year.

Ministries and departments given the right of direct access to world markets represented 12% in the total volume of exports and 28% percent in imports.

A leading position is occupied by trade with socialist states, and mainly with CEMA countries which accounted for 62%.

The volume of trade with capitalist countries was reduced mainly due to reduced imports from developed capitalist countries.

The Soviet Union rendered economic and technical assistance to foreign countries in the construction, expansion, and exploitation of industrial enterprises and other projects, the performance of geological prospecting works, and the development of education and health care.

The majority of USSR ministries and departments increased the volume of output deliveries for export.

Direct ties were established with enterprises and organizations in other countries.

Twenty-three joint enterprises and 14 international associations and organizations with foreign enterprises and organizations were registered on USSR territory.

Reciprocal deliveries of output were effected under specialization and production sharing agreements between the USSR and CEMA countries and Yugoslavia.

II. Intensification of Social Production [section subhead]

Scientific and Technical Progress [subhead]

Research and development took place in priority avenues of scientific and technical progress.

Expenditure on science from the state budget and the funds of ministries, associations, and enterprises increased.

Over the year 17 discoveries reflecting major achievements in chemistry, physics, medicine, mechanics, and other sciences were registered. More than 3,000 models of machines, equipment, apparatus, instruments, and means of automation and 322 computer-aided design systems were created.

Progressive forms of integration of science and production were developed. There are in operation in the national economy some 500 science and production associations and 23 intersector scientific and technical complexes, one of whose main functions is to reduce the time taken to develop and introduce new technology. More than 70 economically accountable centers for scientific and technical creative work by young people began work. Preparations were made for the transfer of scientific research, planning, design, and technological organizations to full economic accountability and self-financing.

The number of scientific and science teaching cadres increased to over 1.5 million, of whom almost one-half are employed in the technical sciences. One-third of scientific potential is concentrated in the VUZ's.

The development of the experimental base of scientific and design organizations still lags behind. The commissioning of a number of such projects under the USSR Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry and the USSR Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building failed to take place.

The scale of assimilation of the innovations created in the course of implementation of the Comprehensive Program for Scientific and Technical Progress of the CEMA Countries is inadequate. Planned time scales for the development of individual very important types of equipment provided for in targeted scientific and technical programs of an intersector nature are not being met. The plan for the development of science and technology was not fulfilled by the USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry, the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, and the USSR Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry.

The production apparatus of sectors of the national economy improved.

Fixed capital worth R190.9 billion was commissioned, including production capital worth R134.7 billion. The proportion of newly commissioned production capital in relation to the total volume was 7.4% at the end of 1987.

R43.5 billion of state capital investments were used for the retooling and modernization of existing enterprises, which is 7% more than in the previous year. Capital

investments for these purposes were 103% assimilated. More than one-half of the total volume of these investments came from the funds of enterprises and organizations.

In industry in 1987 300 flexible production systems for various manufacturing purposes were installed, as well as 16,000 metal-cutting machine tools with digital program control, more than 300 rotary and rotary-conveyor lines, and 11,000 industrial robots. Some 6,000 sectors, shops, and production units went over to comprehensive mechanization and automation.

The production of high-efficiency machine building output increased by more than 10%. The output of progressive equipment increased, including a 90% increase in forging and pressing machines with digital program control, a 50% increase in rotary and rotary conveyor lines for machine building and metal-working, a 20% increase in computer equipment for scientific research, and an increase of nearly 20% in hydraulic cranes with a lifting capacity of 16 tonnes.

Production of more than 4,000 new types of output was assimilated and commenced. A unique composite-blow converter [konverter s kombinirovannoy produvkoy] with a capacity of up to 370 tonnes was manufactured; series production was set up of new flexible production modules, automated lines for machining and press forging production, the ZIL-4331 diesel truck with a freight capacity of 6 tonnes, and the VAZ-2109 small front-wheel-drive car. A large industrial consignment of the "Don-Rotor" combine was produced.

New types of polymer membranes were obtained for sectors of the agro-industrial complex, biotechnology, medicine, and the production of ultrapure chemicals for microprocessor and electronic equipment.

The machine building complex as a whole exceeded the planned rate of renewal of industrial output, as is clear from the following figures:

Output assimilated for the first time in the USSR as a proportion of the volume of commodity output (as a percentage), 1987

	Plan	Actual
Total	7.6	9.0
USSR Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building	12.0	13.9
USSR Ministry of Electrical Equipment Industry	8.5	6.9
USSR Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building	14.4	15.1
USSR Ministry of Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry	7.0	8.9

Output assimilated for the first time in the USSR as a proportion of the volume of commodity output (as a percentage), 1987

	Plan	Actual
USSR Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems	6.8	7.1
USSR Ministry of Automotive Industry	6.0	6.6
USSR Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building	6.4	12.0
USSR Ministry of Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building	5.0	5.6

The plan for the extraction of coal by mechanized complexes and petroleum by means of the use of modern methods of increasing oil recovery from the reservoirs was fulfilled. The proportion of coal extracted by the progressive opencut method was 42.6% of the total extraction, and electricity generated by nuclear power stations was 11.2% of all the electricity generated.

Oxygen converter and electric steel accounted for 47% of total steel smelting. The target for steel teeming by the continuous method was not fulfilled. Machines for continuous casting of billets totaling 350,000 tonnes were commissioned, as against the planned 1.3 million tonnes.

The proportion of individual efficient types of output increased, with, for instance, synthetic fibers and yarns increasing to 59.6% of the total output of chemical fibers and yarns, radial motor vehicle tires increasing to 34.9% of the output of tires, and low pulp consumption newsprint increasing to 57.4% of the total production of newsprint.

There are instances of prolonged time scales for the assimilation of high-efficiency output under purchased licenses at enterprises of the USSR Ministry of the Chemical Industry and the USSR Ministry of Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry.

In the agro-industrial complex in 1987 31% of grain crops, 82% of sugar beet, and 54% of sunflowers were cultivated by intensive techniques. The yield in these areas was higher than the average for the country: 38% higher for grain crops and 16% higher for sunflowers. In the first 2 years of the current 5-year plan sowings of winter crops cultivated by intensive techniques increased to 7.7 million hectares, an increase by 140%.

There was an increase in the volume of use of techniques using secondary raw materials, including the production of various forms of edible vegetable protein from the products of the processing of oil crop seeds and the industrial processing of skimmed milk, buttermilk, and whey.

In construction progressive means of construction using monolithic ferroconcrete and the modular method of installation of equipment and structures became more widespread.

There was an increase in the production of three-layer ferroconcrete panels for outside walls with flexible ties and thermal insulation from efficient materials, as well as prefabricated buildings (modules) made from light metal structures. The use of superplasticizers of concrete mixtures is increasing, which makes it possible to save cement.

Plans for the production of individual types of output which increase the industrialization of construction and improve its efficiency and quality are not being fulfilled.

Transport is changing over to modern technical systems only slowly. The proportion of electric haulage in the total freight turnover of railroad transport increased by 0.9 percentage points compared with the previous year, and totaled 62.4%. The proportion of gas-fueled trucks in the total freight turnover in motor transport is no more than 3%.

Output Quality [subhead]

State acceptance has increased exactingness regarding compliance with technological discipline and quality of output. Because of failure to meet normative and technical specifications, output worth R13 billion was accepted only after additional work and a second submission. Output worth R53 million was finally rejected.

Enterprises and associations in industry did not fulfill the plan for the production of output in the top quality category.

Trade continues to receive from industrial enterprises a significant quantity of articles of unsatisfactory quality.

Over the year the wholesale organizations of union republic ministries of trade rejected 7-9% of sewn and knitted goods and footwear.

A large quantity of output was rejected repeatedly at the Baku No 2 Footwear Factory, the Leninakan Knitwear Factory, the Tskhinvali Knitted Underwear Factory, the Beltsy and Dubossary Sewn Goods Factories, and the Kutaisi Kirov, Baku Children's Clothing, and Leninakan Chkalov Sewn Goods Production Associations.

A considerable volume of poor quality output is supplied by agricultural enterprises. In 1987 the trade network received substandard and reject goods in the following proportions: 10-17% of potatoes, fruit and berries, cabbages, melons, and large onions, 26% of tomatoes, and 29% of grapes. Deliveries for light industry include a high proportion of poor quality raw materials (cotton, flax, raw silk, wool, and so forth).

Utilization of Production Potential [subhead]

The switch to multishift work continued. Production areas released as a result of increasing the shift index were used to site new, progressive equipment and to increase consumer goods production.

Last year there was no improvement in the utilization of the production potential of newly commissioned and modernized capacities. As before, two-thirds of facilities commissioned show laggardness in the assimilation of design capacities, and one in two fails to achieve the design level of labor productivity on time. On average the capacities of the most important facilities commissioned and modernized in the last 2 years were only 81% used. New capacities are not being assimilated satisfactorily at enterprises in the Transcaucasus and the Moldavian SSR, where the average level of assimilation was no more than 60%, or in Central Asia and the Kazakh SSR, where the figure was 74-75%.

As of 1 December 1987 capacities commissioned in 1986 had been less than one-fourth assimilated at the "Chimkentshina" Association of the USSR Ministry of Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry, the Charentsavan (Armenian SSR) Lift Truck Plant of the USSR Ministry of Automotive Industry, the Uzbek SSR Ministry of Light Industry's spinning and weaving factory in Mangit, the Kursk Chemical and Pharmaceutical Plant of the USSR Ministry of the Medical and Biological Industry, and the No 4 Ferroconcrete Products Plant of the USSR Ministry of Construction in the Eastern Regions of the USSR in Komsomolsk-na-Amure.

As a result of laggardness in the assimilation and utilization of capacities, at the facilities investigated alone, there was a shortfall totaling more than R1.3 billion in output in 1987.

Resource Saving [subhead]

In the national economy more than 16 million tonnes of fuel and energy resources (expressed in standard units), 2.1 million tonnes of rolled ferrous metal products, and 8 million cubic meters of timber were saved, and some 145 million gigacalories of secondary heat resources were used. The targets set for saving fuel and energy resources were fulfilled. The increase in the national economy's requirements for these resources was 43% covered through savings, while the increase in the machine building complex' requirements for rolled ferrous metal products was almost entirely covered on this basis. At the same time targets for reducing norms for the expenditure of fuel and energy resources were not fulfilled by enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building, the USSR Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry, and the USSR Ministry of Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building; for rolled ferrous metal products,

these targets were not fulfilled by enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building and the USSR Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry.

There was an increase in the utilization of waste paper, worn tires, phosphogypsum, and other types of secondary raw materials in the national economy.

Utilization of Manpower Resources [subhead]

The annual average number of workers, employees, and kolkhoz members employed in the national economy was 131.3 million. More than 30% of working people are young people under 30, and 7% are persons of pensionable age. The average age of workers and employees is 38. More than one-half of working people have a length of service at a given enterprise of no less than 5 years.

The process of democratization in production management is expanding. In industry, labor collectives elected more than 30,000 workers to leadership posts, and in construction the figure was approximately 6,000.

Intersector scientific and technical complexes, engineering centers, state production associations, and agro-industrial combines (firms) underwent development. Cooperative and individual activity is developing at an accelerated pace. The number of people working in cooperatives was some 150,000 by the end of the year (as against 15,000 at the beginning of the year).

The entire increase in manpower was channeled into the service sphere. In production sectors (industry, agriculture, transportation, and others) there was an overall release of workers from enterprises and organizations.

The labor of 2.4 million people was saved through increased productivity of social labor.

At the same time in a number of sectors of the national economy there was an increase in losses of work time and the diversion of workers from their main activity, into agricultural work among other things.

The team form of labor organization became more widespread. It now covers 80% of workers in their main activity in industry and construction. However, the proportion of the most effective forms of this type of organization—economically accountable forms—is still not great: in industry—one-third of the total number of teams, in construction—about one-half.

The number of specialists with higher and secondary specialized education employed in the national economy was 35 million. Some 2.6 million skilled workers were trained by vocational and technical schools.

Some 7 million people learned new and second professions and were retrained actually in production.

Improvement of the Economic Mechanism [subhead]

In accordance with the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum decisions, measures for the radical restructuring of economic management were implemented.

Last year 2,500 associations and enterprises in industry operated under conditions of full economic accountability and self-financing. The fulfillment of the output sales plan taking contractual commitments into account was 98.7% at these enterprises, which was higher than in industry as a whole. Enterprises working under self-financing conditions used manpower resources more rationally, ensuring increased labor productivity while reducing the number of workers. Overall, production costs were reduced more rapidly at these enterprises.

At the same time the advantages of the new economic management mechanism were not fully realized. A large number of enterprises working in the new conditions failed to fulfill their commitments to consumers in full. In all, at industrial enterprises working in the conditions of full economic accountability the shortfall in accumulations was around R400 million. The target for commissioning fixed capital was not fulfilled. Material and technical supply is still a bottleneck.

The further improvement of the economic machinery of economic management is taking place in the country's agro-industrial complex. With a view to increasing production efficiency, developing the working people's creative initiative, and further extending democratic forms of management, enterprises and organizations in the agro-industrial complex set up 49 agro-industrial combines (the "Kuban" in Krasnodar Kray, "Ramenskiy" in Moscow Oblast, and others), 14 agro-industrial firms ("Adazhi" in the Latvian SSR, "Prut" in the Ukrainian SSR, "Pandivers" in the Estonian SSR, and others), and 19 agro-industrial associations ("Novomoskovskoye" in Tula Oblast, "Ust-Labinskoye" in Krasnodar Kray, "Saranskoye" in the Mordovian ASSR, and others). The collective contract and other progressive forms of labor organization and remuneration are being introduced and work is under way to transfer farms, enterprises, and organizations in the agro-industrial complex to full economic accountability and self-financing.

In construction and installation organizations, preparations were made for work in the conditions of full economic accountability and self-financing; the transfer of organizations of ministries and departments in the construction complex onto the collective contract is nearing completion. A total of 133 planning, manufacturing, and construction associations were set up.

In 1987 the maritime shipping lines of the USSR Ministry of the Maritime Fleet and enterprises of the Belorussian SSR Ministry of Consumer Services worked under the conditions of full economic accountability and self-financing.

III. Development of Material Production [section subhead]

Industry [main subhead]

The **output sales** plan taking delivery commitments into account was fulfilled 98.3%. Breaches of contractual discipline were committed by 23% of associations and enterprises (27% in 1986).

Industrial output production increased 3.8%.

Labor productivity growth amounted to 4.1%.

There was an increase of **profit** and reduction of the **prime costs** of industrial output.

The fulfillment of contract commitments on deliveries and of the plan for profits, labor productivity growth rate, and output volume growth rate in 1987 by national economic **complexes** is as follows (in percentages) [Columns in the following table represent: Column A—Fulfillment of contract commitments for output deliveries; Column B—Proportion of enterprises failing to fulfill contract commitments; Column C—Shortfall in output deliveries, millions of rubles; Column D—Fulfillment of profits plan (January-November); Column E—Actual labor productivity growth rate; Column F—Actual output volume growth rate]:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
Fuel and energy complex	99.1	31	450	107	4.7	3.2
Metallurgical complex	98.9	34	894	101	3.5	1.9
Machine building complex	96.2	56	3,726	95	4.1	4.6
Chemical industry and timber complex	98.0	47	1,986	97	4.5	3.2
Agro-industrial complex	99.0	17	1,493	96	3.9	3.5
Social complex (USSR Ministry of Light Industry)	99.0	24	986	97	4.2	1.4
Construction industry complex (USSR Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry)	98.5	30	197	102	5.1	3.2

Data on industry's work in 1987 for **union republics** (including industry under union jurisdiction) is cited below (in percentages) [Columns in the following table represent: Column A—Fulfillment of contract commitments for output deliveries; Column B—Proportion of enterprises failing to fulfill contract commitments; Column C—Savings (plus sign [denoted by letter "p" in table] indicates overexpenditure) in prime costs as percentage of the plan (January-November); Column D—Actual labor productivity growth rate; Column E—Actual output volume growth rate]:

A	B	C	D	E
RSFSR	98.3	26	0.2	4.4	3.5
Ukrainian SSR	98.0	21	p0.02	4.5	3.8
Belorussian SSR	99.4	8	0.6	6.4	6.5
Uzbek SSR	97.7	26	0.4	0.4	2.3
Kazakh SSR	98.2	20	0.4	4.1	3.9
Georgian SSR	98.2	17	p0.4	2.2	2.4
Azerbaijan SSR	98.3	23	p0.2	4.4	4.8
Lithuanian SSR	99.6	4	0.5	4.3	4.6
Moldavian SSR	97.5	27	0.3	5.3	5.1
Latvian SSR	98.5	16	0.6	5.0	4.3
Kirghiz SSR	98.3	19	0.1	0.4	1.0
Tajik SSR	98.3	19	0.8	3.4	5.0
Armenian SSR	97.4	21	0.01	3.4	4.8
Turkmen SSR	99.2	13	0.9	2.1	3.0
Estonian SSR	99.6	14	0.6	4.2	3.0

Basic indicators showing the production of some of the most important types of output by industrial complexes are cited below.

Fuel and Energy Complex

	Produced in 1987	Percentage fulfillment of annual plan	1987 as percentage of 1986
Electricity, billion kilowatt-hours	1,665	100	104
Oil (including gas condensate), million tonnes	624	101	102
Gas, billion cubic meters	727	102	106
Coal, million tonnes	760	102	101

Fuel and energy complex enterprises extracted over and above their set targets 16 million tonnes of coal, more than 7 million tonnes of oil, including gas condensate, and 15 billion cubic meters of gas.

Electricity generation increased by 66 billion kilowatt-hours. About half of the growth was secured through increased generation by AES's and GES's.

Metallurgy Complex

	Produced in 1987	Percentage fulfillment of annual plan	1987 as percentage of 1986
Steel, million tonnes	162	100.8	100.8
Rolled ferrous metal products (finished), million tonnes	114	100.7	102
Steel pipes, million tonnes	20.3	100	103
Iron ore, million tonnes	251	102	100.4

Metallurgy complex enterprises fulfilled the plan for the production of basic types of ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy products.

For the first time in the last few years there was an increase in the output of rolled metal products, pipes, and hardware with virtually no increase in iron ore extraction or cast iron and coking coal production.

At the same time, production of the prescribed range of output, and primarily of highly efficient types of output, was not ensured. The annual plan was fulfilled only for 6 of the 25 types of such output. There was systematic nonfulfillment of plan targets for the production of electric steel, cast billets from continuous casting machines, cold-rolled sheet metal, cold-rolled stainless steel sheets, high-grade cold-drawn steel, oil-grade high-impact pipes, and others.

The nonfulfillment of the plan in terms of the prescribed range made it impossible to ensure the fulfillment of contractual commitments. The output sales plan taking delivery commitments into account was fulfilled by 98.4%.

Machine Building Complex

	Produced in 1987	Percentage fulfillment of annual plan	1987 as percentage of 1986
Turbines, million kilowatts	22.5	82	108
Turbine generators, million kilowatts	12.8	68	86
Large electric machines, thousands	25.7	91	99
AC electric motors, million kilowatts	54.6	92	98
Low-capacity electric motors for program-controlled machine tools (stepper motors), thousands	48.6	99.2	109
Metal cutting machine tools, billion rubles	2.8	97	97
of which, with digital program control	1.3	98	99.5
Forging and pressing machines, million rubles	645	83	94
Industrial robots, thousands	14.1	93	92
Instruments, automation equipment, and spare parts, billion rubles	5.0	98	104
Medical equipment and spare parts, million rubles	892	99	105
Computer equipment and spare parts, billion rubles	5.3	103	111
Program control devices for all types of technological equipment, thousands	26.6	111	111
Petroleum apparatus, million rubles	241	87	98
Chemical equipment and spare parts, million rubles	941	85	97

Machine Building Complex

	Produced in 1987	Percentage fulfillment of annual plan	1987 as percentage of 1986
Industrial equipment and spare parts for the light and food industry, billion rubles	1.8	89	97
Tractors, million horsepower	52.1	94	96
Agricultural machines, billion rubles	4.2	100.5	105
Potato harvesting combines, thousands	8.8	100.1	114
Machines and equipment for stockraising and feed production, billion rubles	2.9	95	99.7
Feed harvesting combines, thousands	41.6	96	103
Excavators, thousands	41.5	96	97

Measures were implemented in the machine building complex to improve the structure and range of output and to assimilate and expand the manufacture of highly efficient products. The buildup of the output of such products accounted for about 30% of total output growth in the complex.

At the same time, output growth in the complex as a whole amounted to 4.6% which was almost one-fourth lower than envisaged by the annual plan. Targets for the production of some most important types of machine building output were not met. Considerable shortfalls against the plan were recorded by the USSR Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry in the manufacture of metal cutting machine tools and forging and pressing machines, by the USSR Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry in the manufacture of large electrical machines and AC electric motors, and by the USSR Ministry of the Automotive Industry in the manufacture of bearings. Large arrears were recorded by the USSR Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building in the production of chemical equipment and by the USSR Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building in the production of metal rolling equipment and continuous billet casting machines. The planned volume of production of equipment for the light and food industry and railroad transport was not secured. The USSR Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems failed to meet targets for the manufacture of medical equipment and spare parts.

Over two-thirds of all targets set for the year for the production of advanced and highly efficient types of output were not met.

Chemical Industry and Timber Complex

	Produced in 1987	Percentage fulfillment of annual plan	1987 as percentage of 1986
Mineral fertilizers (in 100% nutrient equivalent), million tonnes	36.3	100.5	105
Chemical plant protection agents (in 100% active ingredient equivalent) thousand tonnes	327	100.2	98
Sulfuric acid, million tonnes	28.5	99	102
Caustic soda, million tonnes	3.3	97	102
Chemical fibers and yarns, million tonnes	1.5	100.3	103
Synthetic resins and plastics, million tonnes	5.5	97	103
Tires for motor vehicles, buses, agricultural machines, motor cycles, and motor scooters, millions	67.8	100.1	103
Medicines, billion rubles	3.3	101	107
Commercial lumber (excluding kolkhoz timber procurements), million trimmed cubic meters	295	97	100.2
Paper, million tonnes	6.2	99.7	100.6
of which newsprint, billion square meters	35.8	100.7	104

There was an increase in the manufacture of a number of types of advanced and highly efficient output: polypropylene, polystyrene, fiber glass and fiber glass products, synthetic fibers and yarns, radial tires, large veneer sheets, and packaging cardboard.

The planned volumes of production were not achieved for synthetic plastics and resins and chemical raw materials (synthetic ammonia, sulfuric acid, and caustic soda).

Lags occurred in the fulfillment of the plan targets for the production of commercial timber and lumber and also of cement-chippings and timber-shavings slabs, which are efficient replacements for commercial varieties.

The nonfulfillment of the production plan for a number of types of output by chemical industry and timber complex enterprises had a negative effect on the fulfillment of contractual commitments. In particular, the shortfall in output deliveries against contractual commitments amounted to R870 million for enterprises under the USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and

Paper, and Wood Processing Industry and to R469 million for enterprises under the USSR Ministry of the Chemical Industry. Light industry enterprises short-delivered 9,300 tonnes of chemical fibers and yarns.

Industry Within the Construction Industry Complex

	Produced in 1987	Percentage fulfillment of annual plan	1987 as percentage of 1986
Cement, million tonnes	137	100.7	102
Precast ferro-concrete components and items, million cubic meters	148	99.1	104
Asbestos cement sheet (shingles), billion standard tiles	8.8	100.1	102
Asbestos cement pipes and sleeves, thousand km standard pipes	80.9	100.1	102
Soft roofing and insulation materials, billion square meters	2.0	99.1	99
Window glass, million square meters	252	97	98

Industry within the construction industry complex failed to satisfy the national economy's needs for a number of construction materials. The planned level of output was not reached for precast ferroconcrete components and items including panels and other components for large-panel housing construction; building bricks, soft roofing and insulation materials, and window glass. Targets for the manufacture of some types of efficient construction materials, in particular extruded asbestos cement panels and sectional buildings (modules) made of lightweight metal components, were not met.

The following figures reflect the fulfillment of the plan for the production of basic nonfood **consumer goods**:

	Produced in 1987	Percentage fulfillment of annual plan	1987 as percentage of 1986
Goods for cultural, everyday, and domestic purposes			
Watches and clocks, millions	71	98	100.9
Chinaware and earthenware, million rubles	994	99.2	105
High-grade (glass and crystal) tableware, million rubles	881	102	90
Radio receivers, millions	8.1	91	91
Television sets, millions	9.1	93	96
of which, color sets	4.6	89	106
Tape recorders, millions	5.0	89	105
Refrigerators and freezers, millions	6.0	97	100.7
of which, two- and three-compartment units	1.3	85	134
Washing machines, millions	5.8	95	107
Sewing machines, zig-zag type, thousands	958	102	104
Furniture, billion rubles	8.7	100.6	105
Automobiles, millions	1.3	100.1	100.5
Motorcycles, thousands	960	94	92
Disposable paper products, million rubles	737	105	108
Wallpaper, million standard lengths	518	105	115
Light industry products			
Textiles, all types, billion square meters	12.7	99.7	103
Knitted articles, billion items	1.8	99	103
Hosiery, billion pairs	2.0	100.9	104
Sewn goods, billion rubles	25.8	100.4	100.1
Footwear, million pairs	805	99	101

In 1987 consumer goods (excluding alcoholic beverages) worth R327 billion were produced. Compared with 1986, the manufacture of these goods increased 5.5%.

But the buildup of consumer goods production was allowed to lag behind the targets envisaged by the Comprehensive Program for the Development of Consumer Goods Production and the Services Sphere. This was linked with the nonfulfillment of plan targets for the manufacture of nonfood goods, especially domestic appliances. Delivery shortfalls against the annual plan amounted to 836,000 radio receivers, 723,000 television sets (including 561,000 color sets), and 592,000 tape recorders.

Enterprises under the USSR Ministry of Light Industry failed to meet the prescribed targets for the manufacture of silk and linen textiles, knitwear, footwear, some

products in the children's range, and sports products. There was a R1 billion shortfall in supplies of output to consumers against contracts concluded with enterprises. Some 434 enterprises under the ministry did not cope with their contractual commitments.

Production of high-fashion knitwear, sewn goods, and hosiery and some types of footwear grew at a preferential rate at light industry enterprises, but they still represent an insignificant proportion of total output—between 2 and 8%.

Agro-Industrial Complex [main subhead]

The total volume of output from the agro-industrial complex amounted to more than R460 billion and increased by 1.8% compared with 1986. Agricultural output increased 0.2%; commodity output by processing sectors increased 3.5%.

Labor productivity in public sector agriculture rose 2.5%; the rise in processing sectors was 3.9%.

At the same time, the fall in the volume of production and procurement of a number of crops resulted in a situation in which, compared with the previous year, kolkhoz and sovkhoz profits from all types of activity declined by R1.6 billion and totaled R23 billion. The number of loss-making farms increased from 6,500 in 1986 to 7,200 in 1987. The profitability of agricultural production fell from 19 to 18%.

Crop farming [subhead]

Production of grain, sugar beet (industrial) and sunflower increased in 1987.

The **production** of basic crop farming products on all categories of farms is shown by the following figures (in million tonnes):

	1981-1985 (annual average)	1986	1987
Grain	180.3	210.1	211.3
Raw cotton	8.3	8.2	8.1
Sugar beet (industrial)	76.4	79.3	90.0
Sunflower	5.0	5.3	6.1
Potatoes	78.4	87.2	75.9
Vegetables	29.2	29.7	29.1
Fruit and berries (excluding citrus)	10.4	11.5	7.9
Grapes	7.1	6.5	5.8

Grain crop yields increased, reaching 18.3 quintals per hectare for the country as a whole, including per hectare yields of 33.9 quintals in the Belorussian SSR, 32.2 quintals in the Ukrainian SSR, 34.7 quintals in the Kirghiz SSR, 31.7 quintals in the Lithuanian SSR, and 32.3 quintals in the Estonian SSR. Grain crop yields were below the 1986 level on farms in Orenburg, Kurgan, Omsk, Kuybyshev, Kokchetav, Kustanay, Pavlodar, North Kazakhstan, and a number of other oblasts in the country. Some 14.8 million tonnes of grain corn, 3.9 million tonnes of millet, 1.3 million tonnes of buckwheat, and 2.7 million tonnes of rice were harvested, which was more than in 1986.

Compared with the previous year a decline in grain production occurred on farms in the RSFSR, the Kazakh SSR, the Moldavian SSR, and the Armenian SSR and in sugar beet production in the Lithuanian SSR, the Moldavian SSR, the Latvian SSR, and the Armenian SSR.

Most of the country's regions harvested less potatoes, vegetables, fruit and berries, and grapes than in the previous year.

Serious shortcomings still exist in agriculture in terms of the utilization of reclaimed land, equipment, and other means of production. A number of farms are being slow to introduce advanced methods for cultivating agricultural crops. The area sown to winter crops to be cultivated using intensive techniques for the 1988 harvest was less than planned—17.2 million hectares. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes are basically provided with spring crop seeds, but a considerable proportion of these seeds are not yet in sowing condition.

Some production associations and plants under the USSR Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building and the USSR Ministry of the Automotive Industry fail to supply spare parts on time, and this delays equipment maintenance.

The grain crop purchases plan was fulfilled by farms in the Ukrainian, Belorussian, Uzbek, Georgian, Azerbaijan, Lithuanian, Latvian, Kirghiz, Tajik, Armenian, Turkmen, and the Estonian SSR's, and also by 38 RSFSR oblasts and 11 Kazakh SSR oblasts. Purchases of rye, millet, buckwheat, corn, barley, and pulses were higher than last year.

Purchases of industrial crops, potatoes, and fruit and vegetable produce amounted to (in million tonnes):

	1981-1985 (annual average)	1986	1987
Sugar beet (industrial)	68.2	70.7	78.9
Sunflower	3.9	4.3	4.8
Raw cotton	8.3	8.2	8.1
Potatoes	16.4	19.0	16.9
Vegetables	19.4	20.9	20.2
Fruit and berries (excluding citrus)	5.5	5.6	4.2

The plan for sugar beet purchases was fulfilled by farms in the RSFSR, the Belorussian SSR, and the Georgian SSR.

The plan for deliveries of potatoes, fruit, and cucurbits to all-union stocks was not fulfilled, and their quality deteriorated.

Stockraising [subhead]

The **production** of this sector's products on all categories of farms is shown by the following data:

	1981-1985 (annual average)	1986	1987
Meat (slaughter weight) million tonnes	16.2	18.0	18.6
Milk, million tonnes	94.6	102.2	103.4
Eggs, billions	74.4	80.7	82.1
Wool (natural weight) thousand tonnes	457	469	455

Public sector farms increased meat production by 6%, milk production by 2%, and egg production by 4%. The average milk yield per cow increased by 72 kg or 3%. Compared with 1986, the production of livestock products increased in all union republics except the Armenian SSR and the Tajik SSR, which recorded a decline in milk production. At the same time, there is still a trend toward a decline in production of livestock products and the number of livestock on the population's personal subsidiary farms.

The **numbers** of productive livestock changed as follows (as at 1 January; million head):

	On all categories of farms		Of which, owned by the population	
	1987	1988	1987	1988
Cattle	122.1	120.5	23.7	23.4
of which, cows	42.4	42.0	12.9	12.8
Pigs	79.5	77.3	13.6	13.6
Sheep and goats	148.7	147.0	33.4	33.2

A considerable decline in livestock numbers was allowed to occur last year on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in some union republics (the RSFSR, the Ukrainian SSR, the Kazakh SSR, and the Moldavian SSR).

Agricultural enterprises incur great losses of meat resources due to the sale of livestock of inferior weight. The proportion of such livestock is high in the total volume of purchases in the RSFSR, the Ukrainian SSR, and the Kirghiz SSR.

At the beginning of the year agricultural enterprises were stocked with 20% more feeds than at the beginning of 1987. At the same time stock units are failing to utilize a large number of existing feed shops and feed kitchens for various reasons.

The following figures describe **state purchases** of livestock products on all categories of farms:

	1981-1985 (annual average)	1986	1987
Livestock and poultry, live weight, million tonnes	17.2	20.0	21.8
Milk, million tonnes	62.2	71.8	74.3
Eggs, billions	48.0	53.6	55.5
Wool (pure fiber) thousand tonnes	233.8	241.8	241.2

Compared with last year there was a decline in milk sales in the Tajik SSR and the Armenian SSR and in wool sales in the RSFSR and the Moldavian SSR.

All union republics except the RSFSR fulfilled the plan for deliveries of livestock products to all-union stocks. The RSFSR underfulfilled the plan for meat products.

The increased output of livestock products made it possible in 1987 to raise average per capita consumption of dairy products to 343 kg and of eggs to 270—the level envisaged by the USSR Food Program for 1990.

Food Industry [subhead]

Production of the most important types of foodstuffs totaled:

	Produced in 1987	Percentage fulfillment of annual plan	1987 as percentage of 1986
Meat (industrial products), million tonnes	12.1	104	104
Sausage products, million tonnes	3.7	104	104
Edible fish products, including canned fish, million tonnes	5.7	102	97
Butter, million tonnes	1.7	107	104
Full fat cheese, thousand tonnes	861	100.1	103
Wholemilk products in milk equivalent, million tonnes	32.4	106	104
Margarine products, million tonnes	1.5	96	106
Granulated sugar, million tonnes	13.7	97	107
Vegetable oil, million tonnes	3.0	98	102
Confectionery products, million tonnes	4.6	102	104
Natural tea, thousand tonnes	279	103	108

	Produced in 1987	Percentage fulfillment of annual plan	1987 as percentage of 1986
Canned food, billion standard cans	20.5	103	103
of which, fruit juice	4.5	120	109
Mineral water, million dekaliters	158	101	107
Nonalcoholic beverages, million dekaliters	531	72	107

Production of vodka and liquer-vodka products was cut back 16% compared with 1986.

There was a shortfall in supplies to the consumer of R1.3 billion of output from USSR Gosagroprom enterprises (plan fulfillment was 98.8%), including shortfalls of R544 million from the RSFSR Gosagroprom, R312 million from the Ukrainian SSR Gosagroprom, R145 million by the Uzbek SSR Gosagroprom, and R117 million from the Moldavian SSR Gosagroprom.

Material and Technical Base of the Agro-Industrial Complex [subhead]

There were higher deliveries than planned of cotton picking and beet harvesting combines and tractor plows, and lower deliveries than planned of tractors and most types of agricultural machinery, mainly because consumers rejected them.

Deliveries of 27.4 million tonnes of mineral fertilizers (in terms of 100% nutrient matter), or 0.9 million tonnes more than in the previous year, and 1.1 million tonnes of chemical feed additives, or 28,000 tonnes more, were recorded; the plan for deliveries of mineral fertilizers and chemical feed additives was fulfilled.

A start was made on the transition to wholesale trade in commodities for production and technical purposes.

Capital investment in the development of the agro-industrial complex, including sectors supplying means of production to agriculture, amounted to R63 billion or 101% of the set quota. These funds were channeled as follows: R51 billion to the development of agriculture, R4.5 billion to processing sectors, and R4 billion to sectors supplying means of production to agriculture.

The year saw the construction of stockraising premises, mechanized stock units, and livestock complexes providing places for 5.6 million head of cattle and 7.8 million poultry, silage and haylage facilities with a capacity of 14 million cubic meters, and hay stores for 5.5 million tonnes at any one time. Storage facilities to take 1.9 million tonnes of potatoes, vegetables, and fruit at any one time were commissioned. Targets for the commissioning of such projects were not met by Tula, Volgograd, Kursk, Perm, Lvov, and some other oblasts.

Some 1.2 million hectares of irrigated and drained land were commissioned, and land improvement work was carried out on an area of 1.6 million hectares of agricultural land not requiring draining.

New capacities were commissioned for the production of agricultural equipment, machines and equipment for stockraising and feed production, and mineral fertilizers and feed additives. In the processing sectors 136 projects providing capacities on the state plan list were commissioned. They include capacities for the production of meat, wholemilk products, sugar, and canned fruit and vegetables and also fish processing enterprises, elevators, and mixed feed and milling enterprises.

Afforestation work was carried out on an area of 2.2 million hectares of state forests. The total volume of afforestation work included forest planting and seeding on about 1 million hectares. Work to create protective forest plantations around gullies, ravines, areas of sand, and kolkhoz and sovkhoz pastureland was carried out on a total area of 120,000 hectares.

Capital Construction [main subhead]

Measures were implemented to restructure investment policy and enhance the efficiency of the construction industry complex' work. Compared with 1986, the number of production projects under construction was reduced by 11%. The proportion of expenditure financed by enterprises' and organizations' own resources in the total volume of state capital investment amounted to 18% against 3.1% in 1986. There was considerable growth in the volume of investment in the machine building complex. On the whole, the leftover approach to the construction of social sphere projects has been overcome.

The amount of fixed capital commissioned was R9.2 billion more than in 1986. **Capital investment** from all sources of finance amounted to R203.5 billion. The targets for the commissioning of fixed capital and the assimilation of capital investments by state enterprises and associations were fulfilled by 92 and 97% respectively. Some 1,044 projects providing capacities on the state plan list were commissioned—71% of the number planned for the year.

The following figures show plan fulfillment and the growth rate of the commissioning of fixed assets by state enterprises and organizations by **complexes**:

	Percentage of annual plan	1987 as percentage of 1986
Fuel and energy complex	91	112
Metallurgical complex	82	105
Machine building complex	83	111

	Percentage of annual plan	1987 as percentage of 1986
Chemical industry and timber complex	71	101
Agro-industrial complex	96	104
Construction industry complex	89	117
USSR Ministry of Light Industry	90	114

In the **fuel and energy complex** turbine-generation power stations with a capacity of 11.2 million kilowatts were commissioned: The Khmelnitskiy AES became operational, and turbines were commissioned at the Balakovo, Zaporozhye, and Ignalina AES's, the Surgut No 2 GRES, the Tyumen No 2 TETS, and the Tash-Kumyr GES in the Kirghiz SSR. Capacities for the extraction of 27.1 million tonnes of coal were commissioned, including the "Berezovskiy" No 1 open pit (first stage) in Krasnoyarsk Kray, the "Vostochnyy" in Pavlodar Oblast, and the "Shubarkolskiy" in Karaganda Oblast. Linear sections of main gas pipelines totaling 11,900 km in length were commissioned, including about 3,000 km of the Yamburg-Western USSR Border gas pipeline. At the same time, 74 of 235 projects were not commissioned, including turbines at the Zagorsk GAES, the Novosibirsk No 5 TETS, and the Kemerovo GRES and coal extraction capacities at the "Urgal" mine in Khabarovsk Kray.

The **metallurgy complex** commissioned capacities for the extraction of 3.3 million tonnes of iron ore, the production of 1.4 million tonnes of iron ore concentrate, and the manufacture of 3 million tonnes of steel, 1.4 million tonnes of rolled ferrous metal products, and 564,000 tonnes of steel pipes. They include major capacities for steel production at the Cherepovets metallurgical combine in Vologda Oblast, for iron ore extraction and the production of iron ore concentrate at the Lebedinskiy Mining and Enriching Combine in Belgorod Oblast, and for steel pipe production at the Volzhskiy Pipe Plant in Volgograd Oblast. About one-third of the 127 projects planned for the year were not commissioned, including steel production capacities at the Far Eastern Metallurgical Plant in Komsomolsk-na-Amure, coke production capacities at the Dneprodzerzhinsk coke by-product plant in Dneprorpetrovsk Oblast, and metal scrap processing capacities at the "Vtorchermet" Plants in Kharkov and in Moscow Oblast.

The **machine building complex** increased capacities for the production of steam turbines at the Kharkov turbine plant, metal cutting machine tools at the Alma-Ata machine tool building plant, cable products at the "Kamkabel" Plant in Perm, and tractor trailers at the Dzhankoy machine building plant in Crimea Oblast. The commissioning of 34 projects out of a total of 200 was not ensured, including capacities for the production of heavy-duty semiconductor instruments [silovoy poluprovodnikovoy pribor] at the Ashtarak plant in the Armenian SSR, forging and pressing machines at the Nelidovo hydraulic press plant in Kalinin Oblast, and trucks at the Ulyanovsk truck plant.

The **chemical industry and timber complex** commissioned capacities for the production of 450,000 tonnes of synthetic ammonia, 22,000 tonnes of synthetic fibers and yarns, 51,000 tonnes of synthetic resins and plastics, and 258,000 tonnes of paper. These include capacities for the production of synthetic ammonia at Kemerovo's "Azot" Production Association and of chemical fibers at Vitebsk Oblast's "Polimir" Production Association. Some 44 projects out of a total of 100 were not commissioned. Projects which were not commissioned include capacities for the production of epoxy resins at Leningrad's "Pigment" Science and Production Association, synthetic ammonia at the Rossosh chemical plant in Voronezh Oblast, sulfuric acid at the Balakovo chemical plant in Saratov Oblast and the Sumgait superphosphate plant in the Azerbaijan SSR, and others.

The **construction industry complex** increased its capacities for the production of cement, asbestos cement pipes and sleeves, ceramic tiles, steel construction components, and precast ferroconcrete components and items. Some 26 of the 94 projects planned for the year were not commissioned. Cement production capacities were not commissioned at the Kaspi cement plant in the Georgian SSR, nor were brick production capacities at the ceramic walling materials plants in Shakhty in Rostov Oblast and in Evpraksino in Astrakhan Oblast.

Light industry commissioned capacities for the production of knitted outerwear and underwear, finished textiles, sewn goods, and footwear. At the same time, the plan for commissioning capacities was not fulfilled. Only 88 of the 110 projects planned for commissioning were commissioned.

The country's transportation network was expanded. More than 600 km of new railroad track and parallel lines and about 26,000 km of hard-surface road were built.

All national economic sectors continue to build enterprises and projects to designs whose technical and economic indicators are below modern requirements. Construction time exceeded the normative.

The **volume of contract work** carried out by construction and installation organizations increased 5%, with a 6% increase for construction industry complex enterprises, while their labor productivity rose 6.0 and 7.8% respectively. The entire increase in work volume was achieved through increased labor productivity.

At the same time, restructuring in the construction industry is being implemented slowly. The overall plan for contract work by construction organizations was

fulfilled by 99.8%. Only 12 of the 31 construction industry complex ministries and departments coped with the contract work plan.

About 40% of construction and installation organizations did not fulfill the plan for the volume of contract work, and one in almost three did not fulfill the plan for labor productivity growth.

Construction ministries did not take measures to concentrate material, technical, and labor resources on projects scheduled for commissioning. The fulfillment of contract work targets on these projects was 99%, and almost all construction ministries failed to ensure fulfillment.

Transport and Communications [main subhead]

Freight consignments and passenger turnover on transport for public use are characterized by the following figures:

	Carried out	Percentage fulfillment of annual plan	1987 as a percentage of 1986
Consignment of freight, million tonnes			
Railroad transport	4,050	100	99.8
Maritime transport	252	101	100.8
including coastal shipping	82	96	96
River transport	673	103	104
Motor vehicle transport	6,844	102	103
Pipeline transport oil and petroleum products	660	101	101
Gas (USSR Ministry of the Gas Industry)	548	102	106
Air transport	3	106	100.8
Passenger turnover billion passenger-kilometers			
Railroad transport	400	104	103
Motor vehicle transport (buses)	472	100.7	102
Air transport	204	103	104

Over 13 billion tonnes of freight was consigned on all forms of transport for public use, and the plan was overfulfilled by 1.4%.

The average distance each tonne of freight was shipped by all forms of transport remained at the 1986 level and totaled 613 km—945 km on railroad transport.

All forms of transport coped with the target for the labor productivity of workers involved in shipments. In maritime transport the plan for this indicator was overfulfilled by 8.5% and labor productivity increased 9.7% in comparison with 1986, while the corresponding figures for railroad transport were 7.6 and 6.8% respectively and for civil aviation 3.1 and 3.8% respectively.

Passenger turnover on all forms of transport increased 2.5% and reached 1,084 billion passenger-kilometers.

A large number of accidents continued to occur in public transport. In railroad transport the number of train crashes and accidents increased in comparison with 1986.

Railroad transport fulfilled the overall plan for the consignment of freight, including coal, oil and petroleum products, ores, ferrous metals, cement, mineral fertilizers, grain and milled products, and other freight.

At the same time less peat and peat products, fusing agents, metal structures, timber freight, refractory materials, granulated slag, and highly perishable food freight than envisaged by the plan was shipped. There were considerable freight losses during shipment.

Of 32 railroads 9 failed to cope with the freight consignment target, including the Kuybyshev, Volga Valley, West Siberian, Transcaucasus, and Gorkiy Railroads.

Freight car utilization indicators deteriorated. Freightcar turnaround time lengthened by 5 hours in comparison with 1986. Freightcars were allowed to stand idle for above-normative lengths of time and to become damaged on the sidings of enterprises dispatching and taking delivery of freight. Over the year the average time that freightcars stood idle in sidings and stations through the fault of the enterprise concerned exceeded the norm by 0.7 hours or 10%, including 82% for enterprises under the USSR Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment and Control Systems, 71% for enterprises under the USSR Ministry of Trade, 70% for enterprises under the Tsentrosoyuz, 50% for enterprises under the USSR Ministry of Construction in Southern Regions of the USSR, and 48% for enterprises under the Ministry of the Petroleum Industry.

Only 85% of passenger trains (excluding suburban trains) arrived on schedule.

In **maritime transport** the target for freight shipments going abroad was fulfilled by 101%, but the planned level of freight consignment was not reached in coastal trade, and 6 out of 16 shipping lines failed to cope with their targets.

River transport fulfilled the freight consignment plan both for the country as a whole and for all the union republics.

The plan for transporting freight on direct mixed railroad and river transport was not fulfilled. Passenger shipments were below the target and the previous year's level.

Civil aviation overfulfilled the passenger consignment plan by 4% and the plan for chemical spraying work in agriculture and forestry by 6%.

One aircraft in every five arrived late at its destination.

In **motor vehicle transport** the Moldavian SSR, Turkmen SSR, and Uzbek SSR Ministries of Motor Vehicle Transport failed to cope with their freight shipment targets. Income from transporting passengers on public buses and in taxis increased 3% in comparison with 1986 and totaled R8.1 billion.

Truck utilization deteriorated: There was an increase in the proportionate length of time that vehicles in working order were idle and in the proportion of empty runs and a decline in truck productivity per tonne of carrying capacity.

Gas pipelines operated by the USSR Ministry of the Gas Industry delivered 0.7% more commodity gas than envisaged by the target.

Urban electrical transport recorded a 3% increase in passenger traffic and carried 25 billion people. In 1987 new sections of subway were commissioned in Moscow, Leningrad, Gorkiy, Novosibirsk, Kuybyshev, and Tashkent. Trolleybus services were introduced in Antratsit (Voroshilovgrad Oblast) and Bukhara. High-speed tram lines were extended and carried 166 million passengers.

Communications enterprises fulfilled the plan for revenue from their basic activity, and communications services grew 6% in comparison with 1986. The sector coped with the target for increasing the number of basic telephones in urban and rural networks.

IV. Social Development and the Growth of the People's Living Standard [section subhead]

At the beginning of 1988 the **population** totaled 284.5 million. In 1986-1987 the country recorded a bigger increase in population than in 1981-1985—an average of almost 2.9 million as against 2.4 million.

The demographic situation is improving under the influence of the positive changes taking place in the country, the priority being given to the development of the social sphere, the expansion of its material base, and the implementation of measures to strengthen the family. There was a substantial decline in the death rate. In 1986 and 1987 an average of 200,000 fewer people died than in 1984. Average life expectancy increased by almost 2 years and now stands at 69.6 years. Some 5.6 million children were born last year as against 4.9 million in 1980.

Labor Remuneration and the Population's Incomes [subhead]

The average monthly money wages of workers and employees in the national economy totaled R201 as against R196 in 1986. The level of earnings of skilled steel workers, foundrymen, lathe operators, oil and gas extraction operators, underground borehole maintenance workers, bulldozer and excavator operators, miners, face workers, and others is considerably higher (R300 and above).

The average monthly earnings of kolkhoz members increased from R163 to R167.

Measures to increase wages envisaged by the 1987 plan were implemented.

The increase in the wages of teachers and other public education workers envisaged by the Basic Guidelines foe the Reform of General and Vocational Education was completed everywhere. As a result the wages of elementary grade teachers increased 53%, middle and senior grade teachers by 33%, and secondary specialized and vocational and technical educational establishment teachers by 25%.

Labor remuneration benefits for workers at infant homes, children's homes, and residential schools for orphans and children deprived of parental care were expanded.

The phased increasing of the wages of health care and social welfare establishment workers is continuing.

Wage supplements were introduced for workers and employees for continuous service at enterprises, establishments, and organizations in southern regions of the Far East, Chita Oblast, the Buryat ASSR, and the Tuva ASSR.

Regional wage coefficients for workers and employees for whom they had not been introduced before were established in the Urals and in production sectors in northern and eastern regions of the Kazakh SSR.

With a view to boosting workers' and employees' interest in switching to multishift working, in addition to payments for night work supplementary payments were introduced for evening shift work at enterprises and organizations in industry, the construction industry, and transport and communications, and the opportunities for moral incentives were expanded. Nightshift work supplements were increased for workers in the bakery and pasta industry.

Production sectors in the national economy are effecting wage increases financed from funds earned by labor collectives. As of 1 January 1988 26 million people had

been transferred to new conditions of labor remuneration—37% of the total number of workers and employees due to be transferred during the current 5-year plan period.

The population received payments and benefits from social consumption funds amounting to R162.5 billion—R7.5 billion more than in 1986. Taking these payments and benefits into account workers' and employees' wages stood at R287 per month and kolkhoz members' earnings from public sector kolkhoz farming totaled R248 per month.

Allowances to people disabled since childhood were increased, additional benefits were introduced for Great Patriotic War veterans and the families of dead servicemen, and tax liability on citizens with small families was abolished for newly married couples for 1 year following registration of their marriage. The pensions of workers, employees, and their families set 10 or more years ago continued to increase.

Measures were implemented to improve the education, training, and material security of orphans and children left without parental care. The standard of material, housing, and daily life conditions was improved for several categories of VUZ students, pupils attending secondary specialized educational establishments, and postgraduate students.

The duration of paid leave to care for sick children was extended to 14 days.

State Internal Loan bonds were redeemed.

Working people increased their savings banks deposits by R24 billion.

Provision of Goods and Services for the Population [subhead]

The population's consumption of material goods and services increased 3.3% compared with the previous year.

Retail state and cooperative trade turnover amounted to R341.1 billion and increased by R9.2 billion compared with 1986 (in actual prices). But the population's money incomes increased faster than trade turnover and the consumption fund, and there was consequently an increase in unsatisfied demand.

For the country as a whole the trade turnover plan in terms of total volume was underfulfilled by R12.6 billion. Plan target fulfillment was secured in the Belorussian SSR, the Lithuanian SSR, the Moldavian SSR, and the Estonian SSR.

There was a cutback in the production and sale of alcoholic beverages. Their sales were 13% down on 1986. There was an appreciable improvement in the structure of retail trade turnover.

Sales of foodstuffs and nonfood goods increased 3.1%.

Sales of individual goods in state and cooperative trade are characterized by the following figures (in comparable prices; billion rubles):

	Sold in 1987	1987 as percentage of 1986
Meat and meat products	28.7	106
Fish and fish products	5.3	98
Butter	5.7	108
Vegetable oil	1.7	102
Margarine products	1.5	99
Whole milk products	8.8	103
Cheese	1.8	103
Eggs	5.0	103
Sugar	8.0	107
Confectionery	11.2	101
Tea	2.0	105
Bread products, million tonnes	38.8	100
Potatoes, million tonnes	10.1	99
Vegetables, million tonnes	13.7	95
Fruit and citrus fruit, million tonnes	7.7	102
Nonalcoholic beverages, million dekaliters	468	110
Mineral water, million dekaliters	149	101
Fruit and vegetable juices, billion standard cans	5.5	102
Tobacco products	6.7	98
Clothing, linen, and textiles	37.0	97
Knitwear	14.5	102
Hosiery	3.5	109
Footwear	13.1	95
Chinaware, earthenware, and glassware	2.5	111
Soap and detergents	1.9	105
Furniture	8.4	103
Refrigerators and freezers millions	4.5	97
of which, with a capacity of 250 cubic decimeters or more	2.4	103
Washing machines, millions	5.2	106
Vacuum cleaners, millions	3.8	103

	Sold in 1987	1987 as percentage of 1986
Clocks and watches, millions	51.3	104
Cameras, millions	2.2	108
Radio receivers, millions	7.7	113
Television sets, millions	8.1	94
of which, color sets	4.2	100
Tape recorders, millions	5.5	107
Bicycles and mopeds, millions	5.5	100
Motor cycles and scooters, millions	1.3	96
Cars millions	1.7	104
Timber materials, million cubic meters	21.0	124
Slate, billion standard tiles	4.6	109
Gasoline for motor vehicles, million tonnes	6.0	118

Measures to implement the Food Program made it possible to normalize trading in many foodstuffs—vegetable oils, pasta and bread products, whole milk products, and eggs. But the product range does not always meet the population's demands.

Despite the increased sales of meat and dairy products, difficulties in meat and butter supplies for the populations were not overcome. Their sale was regulated in many of the country's regions. At the same time, use is still not being made everywhere of the new planning procedures which make it possible to ensure additional output for local supplies through increased production.

An unsatisfactory situation developed in the supply of potatoes, fruit, and vegetables for the population, and their range and quality often failed to satisfy the population's demands. Market trade in this produce was not developed in the requisite manner by kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and consumer cooperatives. Market trade prices remained at a high level.

Measures to increase the output, expand the range, and improve the quality of goods and services for the population were implemented on the basis of the Comprehensive Program for the Development of Consumer Goods Production and the Services Sphere.

At the same time, the population's demand for many types of clothing and knitwear was not fully satisfied, while the shortage of footwear in the trade network remained acute. The situation is aggravated by the imbalance between demand and supply in terms of range and quality. The trade network has R1.4 billion of accumulated stocks of unsaleable and slow-moving goods of obsolete fashions, models, and designs.

Trade organizations are not take the requisite measures to expand the sales of goods by involving resources from internal reserves. The development of public catering and of commission trade in nonfood goods, especially products produced by individual labor activity, was unsatisfactory.

More timber and construction materials started making their way into the trade network. Their sales increased by one-fifth compared with 1986. But the population's demand is not being fully satisfied, especially for local construction materials. The target for their sales to the population set for 1987 was fulfilled by 49%, with figures of 26% in the RSFSR and 36% in the Kazakh SSR.

The sale of production waste products and substandard articles was extremely poorly organized, and the annual target for such sales was only half-fulfilled. These products were sold by just over 2,000 stores, of which only about 600 are specialized.

The volume of **paid services** supplied to the population amounted to R53.6 billion and increased 8.1% compared with 1986. The plan was fulfilled by 95.2%. The RSFSR, the Ukrainian SSR, the Uzbek SSR, the Kazakh SSR, the Georgian SSR, the Azerbaijan SSR, the Tajik SSR, the Armenian SSR, and the Turkmen SSR did not cope with the targets. The fulfillment of plans for the sale of paid services to the population was not secured by enterprises and organizations under 41 of the 47 ministries and departments which were set state targets for the development of such services.

The existing imbalances in the satisfaction of the population's demands for various types of paid services were not overcome. Consumer, housing and municipal, and transport services account for three-fourths of the total.

The sphere of paid services available within enterprises was not developed in the requisite manner, and the overwhelming majority of services offered are only the traditional ones. There are extremely few services offered at places of work in terms of physical culture and sports and clubs and cultural-enlightenment institutions.

The volume of consumer service sales amounted to R12.1 billion and increased 12.3% compared with 1986. The plan was fulfilled by 101.1%. At the same time, plan fulfillment was not secured in the Uzbek SSR, the Azerbaijan SSR, and the Armenian SSR.

As before, the population is continuing to experience difficulties in obtaining some types of consumer services (repairs to housing, furniture, complex domestic appliances, cars, sewn goods, knitwear, and others). There are numerous complaints by the population about the long time taken to complete orders and the poor standard of workmanship. Consumer services for the rural population are at a low standard.

Despite the fact that consumer service enterprises have been operating in new conditions of economic management for more than a year, the introduction of economic accountability, team contracts, the contract system, and other forms of labor organization and remuneration is still poor.

Cooperative and individual forms of labor activity are called upon to provide a substantial addition to the state system for satisfying the population's demand for goods and services.

Housing Construction [subhead]

The program to provide a separate apartment or individual home for every family is being consistently implemented. Some 2.3 million new and well-appointed apartments, with a total area of 129.7 million square meters, were built out of all sources of finance. More than 11 million people improved their housing conditions. The housing construction plan as a whole was overfulfilled.

At the same time, the fulfillment of the annual target for commissioning housing financed by state capital investments was not ensured by the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, the USSR Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry, the USSR Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems, the USSR Ministry of the Production of Mineral Fertilizers, the USSR Ministry of Light Industry, and a number of other ministries and departments, and also by the Georgian SSR, the Azerbaijan SSR, the Tajik SSR, and the Armenian SSR.

The country's housing stock totaled 4.3 billion square meters. The average total area per capita was 15.2 square meters, of which 10.3 square meters was actual living space. At the same time, in 1987 local ispolkoms and enterprises and organizations in cities and city-type settlements registered and had on their lists about 13 million families and individuals waiting for better housing conditions.

Major repairs were carried out on more than 1 million apartments with a total area of 61 million square meters. About 100,000 apartments with a total area of 5.5 million square meters were modernized, including reconstruction financed by major-repair funds, making it possible to improve housing conditions for more than 300,000 people.

A number of ministries (the USSR Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building, the USSR Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry, and others) failed to meet the set targets for major repairs to the housing stock and for the elimination of dilapidated and derelict housing. In the country as a whole a total area of more than 70 million square meters of housing accomodating about 7 million people was in use while in a state of extreme dilapidation or dereliction (3% of of the state and public housing stock and the stock of housing construction cooperatives).

Public Education and Culture [subhead]

About 110 million people were undergoing various types of education.

In conformity with the reform of general and vocational education, children were being admitted to school from the age of 6. During the 1987-1988 academic year 42% of 6-year-olds were receiving education under the first grade program, including 0.6 million in preschool establishments. The transition to education of 6-year-olds was basically implemented in full in the Georgian SSR, the Lithuanian SSR, and the Belorussian SSR.

Some 4 million teenagers completed their secondary education in 1987.

Permanent preschool establishments provide education for 17 million or 58 percent of children of the relevant age. The number of children attending preschool establishments in excess of the prescribed health and hygiene norms totals 1.2 million, and 1.5 million children need to be enrolled in preschool institutions.

General educational schools with 1.5 million places, vocational and technical education establishment with 137,000 places, and preschool establishments with 678,000 places were commissioned out of all sources of finance. Compared with 1986, the commissioning of general educational schools increased by 18%, vocational and technical schools by 61%, and preschool establishments by 7%. But the commissioning plan was fulfilled ony in terms of general educational schools. The fulfillment of the targets for vocational and technical schools was not secured by the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification, the USSR Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building, the USSR Ministry of Construction of Petroleum and Gas Industry Enterprises, and others and by the RSFSR, the Georgian SSR, the Tajik SSR, and the Estonian SSR; the fulfillment of the targets for preschool establishments was not secured by the USSR Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems, and the USSR Ministry of Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building and by the RSFSR, the Georgian SSR, the Moldavian SSR, the Tajik SSR, and the Armenian SSR.

VUZ's trained 0.8 million specialists, and secondary specialized education establishments trained 1.3 million.

Secondary specialized education establishments enrolled 1.5 million students in 1987—0.2% more than in 1986. Enrollment in VUZ's fell by 1% compared with the previous year and totaled 1.1 million people.

More than 2 billion copies of books and brochures were published in 1987.

Cultural-enlightenment work among the population is carried out by 134,000 mass libraries with a book stock of more than 2 billion copies, 138,000 club establishments catering for 28 million people, 153,000 movie houses, more than 2,000 museums, and 600 professional theaters.

The number of visits to the movies during the year reached about 4 billion, representing an average of 14 visits per citizen. There are still a number of big rural population centers where no movies were shown during the year.

Clubs and culture centers catering for 396,000 people were built out of all sources of finance. The plan was significantly underfulfilled. Not a single club establishment was commissioned by the USSR Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building, the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification, and the USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Industry.

Health Care [subhead]

Medical assistance to the population was provided by 1.2 million doctors and 3.3 million middle-level medical personnel; there were 230 people per doctor and 86 per nurse (or paramedic). The network of hospitals and outpatient clinics grew.

Hospitals with 75,000 beds were commissioned. The plan for commissioning hospitals was not fulfilled. There was serious laggardness on the part of the USSR Ministry of Mineral Fertilizer Production, the USSR Ministry of the Gas Industry, the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, and also the RSFSR, the Georgian SSR, the Moldavian SSR, and the Armenian SSR.

The plan for commissioning outpatient clinics was fulfilled; clinics catering for 207,000 consultations per shift were built.

There was a fall in the incidence of influenza and acute upper respiratory tract infections and tuberculosis, and the number of accidental injuries in daily life fell. But despite the fall in the incidence of sickness involving temporary loss of the capacity to work, economic losses resulting from sickness, injuries, and also the care of sick children are substantial. Each worker was absent from work for an average of 9 days for these reasons. In the national economy as a whole losses were in excess of 1 billion work days.

The population's requirements for highly qualified medical assistance are not fully satisfied. The standard of medical services to the rural population shows a considerable lag. The material and technical base of medical institutions needs to be strengthened considerably.

Expenditure on safety at work increased by 7% during the year, totaling R6.3 billion (an average of R50 per worker), but the level of accidents at work is falling only slowly.

The network of sanatoriums and leisure institutions continued to develop. The total number of people undergoing treatment or taking recreation was 69 million, of whom 42 million were on tourist trips and at tourist bases. At the same time the population's requirements for organized leisure were not fully met, the network of specialized sanatoriums developed insufficiently, and local health resort facilities were assimilated only slowly.

The network of sports facilities widened. At the same time the provision of such facilities, as well as of sports equipment and apparatus is inadequate. The introduction of physical culture into the population's daily life is not proceeding satisfactorily. Only one-third of the employed population regularly practices physical culture and sport.

The struggle against drunkenness and alcoholism had a significant effect on reducing injuries and mortality. The mortality of the working-age population fell by 20% compared with 1984, while among men of that age mortality from accidents fell by 37%. Nonetheless the mortality of the working-age population remains high.

Infant mortality in 1987 was at the 1986 level—25 children under the age of 1 year per 1,000 births (in 1985 the figure was 26). The existing level of infant mortality is still high, largely due to serious shortcomings in the organization of medical assistance to women and children.

Environmental Conservation [subhead]

Work was carried out to reduce pollution of the atmosphere and water sources, ensure the more rational utilization of land, water, forest, and mineral resources, and also to protect and restore the animal world.

Monitoring of the implementation of additional measures to improve environmental conservation in the regions of Lakes Baykal and Ladoga was stepped up. The implementation of a number of projects which fail to meet modern ecological requirements was stopped, in particular the construction of the Daugavpils GES and the planning of a phosphorite mine in the Estonian SSR. Discharges of harmful substances into the atmosphere from stationary sources were reduced by 2 million tonnes. As a result of the operation of existing systems for the recycling and reuse of water and the commissioning of new ones, savings in the water intake were in excess of the equivalent of the annual flow of the Volga. A number of new reserves and other conservation areas were set up.

The total expenditure on environmental conservation and the rational utilization of natural resources (including expenditure on forest management) was more than R10 billion, including R2.6 billion of state capital investments.

At the same time virtually no improvement is taking place in the situation regarding conservation of the atmosphere in a number of cities in a strained ecological situation, in particular Dzhambul, Dushanbe, Mogilev, and Tolyatti.

As a result of failure to meet targets for the commissioning of water conservation facilities, the discharge of polluted effluent through industrial drainage systems was not stopped at the Sakskiy Chemicals Plant of the USSR Ministry of the Chemical Industry (Crimean Oblast), the Kolchugino Nonferrous Metals Processing Plant of the USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy (Vladimir Oblast), the "Groznefteorgsintez" Production Association of the USSR Ministry of Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry, and a number of other enterprises; the plan for commissioning a municipal sewage system in Baku was not fulfilled.

At individual enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy, the USSR Ministry of the Gas Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Chemical Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry, the USSR Ministry of Railways, and certain other ministries isolated discharges of harmful substances into the atmosphere occurred, while at enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification, the Ukrainian SSR and RSFSR Ministries of Housing and Municipal Services, the USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry, and others there were accidental discharges of polluted effluent.

In connection with violations of nature conservation legislation work was halted at individual production units at enterprises of the USSR Ministry of the Medical and Biological Industry, the USSR Ministry of Mineral Fertilizer Production, the USSR Ministry of the Chemical Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Gas Industry, and others. Economic sanctions were imposed on the enterprises to partially make good the damage; the leaders of many organizations were fined.

The first 2 years of the 12th 5-Year Plan have ended. The country has entered the decisive stage of the restructuring. The USSR Law on the State Enterprise (Association) came into force 1 January 1988.

The labor collectives, preparing a fitting greeting for the 19th All-Union Party Conference, are concentrating their efforts on ensuring fulfillment of the plans for the 3d year of the 5-year plan.

Agricultural

Sizenko Describes 1988 Agricultural Plans

LD261607 Moscow TASS in English 1329 GMT 26 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 26 TASS—"To the workers engaged in the Soviet agri-industrial sector, 1988 will become a year of implementing in practice the reform of management in agriculture", minister of the USSR Yevgeniy Sizenko, first deputy chairman of the USSR Agri-Industrial Committee, has said in an interview with a TASS correspondent.

The new economic mechanism already yields positive results: Over the past two years gross agricultural output has grown by almost ten per cent, which was twice as high as the annual average rate of increment over the previous Five-Year Plan period (1981-1985). The average annual grain harvest, for example, amounted to more than 210 million tons over the past two years, exceeding the level of last five-year plan period by 17 per cent. The production of meat increased by 12 per cent, and that of milk and eggs by nine per cent.

From January 1, this year, 56,000 (more than a half) collective and state farms operating in the country, and of the processing and other enterprises and organizations of the agri-industrial sector switch over to complete cost-accounting and self-financing. The main thing now is to revive in grain growers a careful and thrifty attitude to land.

A state order for the delivery of farm products, which will be brought to the district-level agri-industrial associations, agrocomplexes and other agrounits will become one of major levers of management.

"Beginning from this year", the minister said in conclusion, "they organize work under contracts between collective and state farms and processing enterprises for the delivery of products".

Grain Ministry Notes 'Shortcomings'

LD272034 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Summary] The USSR Grain Products Ministry Collegium has discussed the results of economic and social development of the industry last year and tasks for this year. As Minister Aleksandr Dmitriyevich Budyka noted, against a general background of some positive results, in the ministry there are concealed a large number of shortcomings preventing progress. The ideas of restructuring have not been fully grasped. In a year the entire industry will switch to full financial autonomy and self-financing, but many directors and specialists are slow to master the principles of working in the new style and are not displaying initiative.

At the same time, many violations of technological and executive discipline have been uncovered. There is poor monitoring of the quality of bread, compound fodders, and other vital products made by the USSR Grain Products Ministry enterprises. This leads to such extraordinary occurrences as the closure of a Moscow bread factory for poor quality of production. A number of shortcomings in the ministry's work were noted by (Oleg Nikolayevich Ikoyev), a party Central Committee sector chief. He drew special attention to the earliest solution of social problems—housing construction, organization of paid services, and revival of working of subsidiary plots. It is necessary, he said, to end the shameful phenomenon of theft and illegal expenditure of state funds.

No 'Breakthrough' in Non-Chernozem Agro-Industry

PM27!619 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Jan 88 Morning Edition p 1

[I. Abakumov "Agricultural Review": "Non-Chernozem Zone: Economic Accountability and Food Reserves"]

[Text] From this year the RSFSR non-Chernozem Zone will receive priority in the allocation of material and technical resources. A recent CPSU Central Committee Politburo session deemed it necessary to formulate a comprehensive program for the region's socioeconomic development in 1988-1995.

The attention paid to the region is not without good reason. The present-day non-Chernozem Zone is 13% of the country's territory with a population of 60 million people. One-fifth of the RSFSR's grain is produced here, more than half its potatoes, and two-fifths of its vegetables and milk. But there is not enough of these foodstuffs to meet even the region's own requirements. Moreover, in recent years there has been a fall in the production of the main agricultural products.

The measures taken to assist the farms here have made it possible to halt this fall, but there has still not been a fundamental breakthrough in the development of the non-Chernozem Zone's agro-industrial complex. The resources invested by the state are not producing the expected return. Yet in the last 10 years the fixed production capital and the power-worker ratio of farms in the zone have more than doubled. In the present 5-year plan the sum of appropriations for development has reached R46 billion.

It can be hoped that now, with the switch of the RSFSR agro-industrial complex to full economic accountability and self-financing, state resources will not slip through the fingers like sand. But there is no reason to expect magical transformations to begin from the very start of the new year. This is as improbable as the notorious promise to begin a new life on Monday.

I would say the main point is the ability to get down to work. But it is precisely this which is lacking in many farms in the non-Chernozem Zone. Of course, it is not a matter of teaching the peasant when to sow and plow. The ability to work today means the right choice of labor organization, thrifty utilization of the existing production potential, and the rational application of state resources. Here economic competence above all is essential, and, as practice shows, by no means everything is satisfactory in this regard, not only at team level but at farm and rayon agro-industrial association levels.

In Velizhskiy Rayon in Smolensk Oblast 30 farms operate collective contracts. The picture seems impressive. But the rayon is one of the worst laggards regarding milk yields. Last year it obtained only 1,800 kg of milk per cow. This figure shows very clearly the level of economic work at livestock units: Many milkmaids are completely unaware that they are working on contract. Some, it is true, were informed of this, but the farm leaders forgot to explain what their wage would be and where their personal interests now lie. But they are completely up to date when it comes to reports on introduction. But how can you hide behind this report when the gross income on some farms is less than the wages fund?

But there are arguments to hide behind. I heard one of the directors of a sovkhoz in another rayon, Kardymovskiy Rayon, say: "There is no one to milk the cows and plow the land. I have six people per 100 hectares of plowland. Such are the consequences of the war..." Today, 43 years later, he sees this as the main reason. Then we talked for a long time about the possibility of attracting people to the sovkhoz opened up by the creation of crop farming, fattening, and dairy cooperatives and the leasing of equipment and premises to them.

People could earn quite a lot without going to the cities or to various construction sites. You know what he replied: "Leasing, cooperatives... So they would take above-plan output to the market... Is this the way for us?"

With this attitude there is little hope for swift changes on the farm, and not only this farm. Such "arguments" are to be heard on many sovkhozes and kolkhozes in the non-Chernozem Zone. They are tenacious, despite the fact that nearby, literally in the neighborhood, the most diverse forms of truly informal economic accountability are developing and strengthening. For example, the milkmaids of the Pervitino livestock unit at the Gorkiy Kolkhoz in Gagarinskiy Rayon increased the milk yield per cow by 500 kg after they switched to the team contract. In Ugranskiy Rayon the Aniskov family are raising steers in a dilapidated cow barn. They gained 750 grams in weight per day. The three of them produced 2,210 quintals of beef in the 11th 5-Year Plan alone.

There are plenty of similar contrasts not only in Smolensk, but in Vladimir, Ivanovo, Kalinin, Kirov, Kostroma, Ryazan, Yaroslavl, Novgorod, and Pskov

Oblasts. The introduction of lease, family and other forms of contract everywhere is proceeding extremely feebly. But an increase in the number of small economically accountable collectives could ensure the swift and reliable growth of food production, which would make it possible to fully supply the population of these territories with the necessary quantities of meat, milk, and vegetables.

But how long must we bust a gut proving the obvious? Clearly, the time for cajoling has passed, because it does not "work." Cadres' competence must be determined by what they do, by the level of introduction of economic methods of work in the sectors entrusted to them. If someone is reluctant to really get down to introducing economic accountability, let him seek a job where there is no need for initiative. For the leaders of farms in the non-Chernozem Zone initiative is now more necessary than ever. The plans to transform the region are such that the work cannot be carried out without capable people: By 1995 each village family must have a separate home and yard, and as of this year an extensive highway construction program will be implemented, the provision of gas supplies to villages will be accelerated, and the use of electric power for production and everyday needs will be extended. Huge resources are being allocated, and it is important to use them thriftily.

Media Report 22-27 Jan Agricultural Developments

LD280802 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 22-27 January. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

22 January

Altay grain growers have completed the preparation of seeds for sowing on fields cultivated in accordance with an intensive technology. In the spring they will be sowing to 1.2 million hectares, the biggest acreage in Siberia. Despite the difficult and rainy autumn, the kray's kolkhozes and sovkhozes have succeeded in fully stocking up with seeds and in bringing them up to good sowing condition during the winter months. (0100)

23-24 January

No fileworthy items monitored.

25 January

Nearly half the sovkhozes and kolkhozes in Bashkiriya have not been provided with seed grain, something that never has happened before. Seeds currently are being sent to the autonomous republic from the Altay and the Ukraine, yet there is no guarantee that seeds from far-off areas can give good yields here. (1200)

26 January

The northern Kazakh oblasts have carried out moisture retention over an area of over 14 million hectares, the entire grain-growing area. The snow cover is 30-35 cm. Effective grain-fallow crop rotation is now in use over 90% of the eared-crop area. (1430)

27 January

Thanks to the commissioning of the major new "Komsomol" irrigation scheme in western Turkmenistan, the Kara-Kum zone of irrigated pastures and fodder fields has been expanded by a further 70,000 hectares. The underground water is supplied to the fields of Krasnovodskiy Rayon via a 90-km conduit. (0000)

Scientific

Activities of 'Mir' Cosmonauts Described

27 Jan Tasks

LD270435 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0300 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] The flight of the manned complex Mir continues. Space technology and astrophysics, the unloading of the Progress-34 cargo ship—such is the brief list of tasks scheduled for today.

In accordance with the space materials technology program, experiments in that area have been mapped out. The trial of methods of applying the galvanized anticorrosion coatings in conditions of weightlessness is being conducted in the portable technological unit Eri. In the Korruno electric oven, an experiment will start aimed at obtaining crystals of semiconductor materials with improved parameters. The telescopes of the Roentgen orbital observatory are now trained on the Great Magellanic Cloud. In accordance with the schedule of work with the Progress-34 cargo ship, the pumping of drinking water from the chambers of the space tanker to the reservoirs of the station is planned.

Everything is fine aboard the orbital complex. Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov are well and in good health.

28 Jan Tasks

LD280419 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0304 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Text] Cosmonauts Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov continue their flight aboard the scientific research center Mir. In the first half of the day, the crew will be engaged in the work on furnishing the base block with additional equipment and instruments which were delivered into orbit by the cargo ship Progress-34.

The program of experiments includes measuring flows of charged high-energy particles and studying the interaction of these flows with earth's radiation belts. Within

the framework of the international program of research in outer astronomy, a few more series of measurements of the X-ray pulse in the Great Magellanic Cloud have been mapped out. The experiments on the program of space materials technology using the Eri portable technological unit also have been mapped out.

Phobos Project Council Reviews Tasks, Problems

LD262154 Moscow TASS in English 2131 GMT 26 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 26 TASS—Two Soviet space vehicles are to be launched with an interval of several days from the Baykonur Cosmodrome in July this year. They are to approach the surface of Phobos, the satellite of Mars, as near as several dozens metres, and fly over it at a small speed.

Opening a meeting of the International Council on Preparations for the International Project Phobos, today, director of the Space Exploration Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, Academician Roald Sagdeyev has said that this is the last meeting in Moscow before sending the space vehicles and scientific equipment to the cosmodrome. The conference is attended by specialists of Austria, Bulgaria, Hungary, Britain, GDR, Ireland, USSR, USA, France, Finland, FRG, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland, Sweden, and also the European Space Agency.

Among the main problems being discussed is the course of preparations for realisation of the project and also the results of the tests of the space vehicles and scientific instruments.

The international project provides for the launching of two space vehicles of a new modification. A multipurpose planetary programme, involving 12 countries, and the European Space Agency, provides for explorations of objects of the solar system, Phobos and Mars itself, and also the Sun and the interplanetary space.

The element and isotope composition of the rock on the Phobos surface is planned to be explored with the help of laser and ion sounding for the first time in the history of planetary experiments. The memory device, which is part of the videospectrometric complex, will ensure the registration of 1,100 full frames and their subsequent transmission to earth by a radio channel.

A probe is to separate from the space vehicle, on approaching Phobos. This is a durable autonomous station which is to land on the surface of the satellite. An oriented contact with the surface is planned, and then—active consolidation on the rock. The main task of the station is to carry out scientific experiments on the Phobos surface, which need a long time.

Scientist on Project

LD281258 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Text] A session of the International Council for the Phobos Project is taking place in Moscow. As we have already reported, the project envisages launches of two Soviet interplanetary probes to Mars and its satellite Phobos. Scientists from 12 countries are participating in preparing equipment and instruments. Our correspondent has interviewed Professor Yefrom Lazarevich Akim, a department head of the Applied Mathematics Institute Imeni Keldysh.

[Begin recording] [Akim] The flight of the space apparatus, each of the two space probes, from the earth to Mars will take something in the region of 200 days. Both probes will be launched in early July of this year and will arrive near the planet Mars in late January of next year, 1989. Two final corrections of trajectory, which we shall carry out about 2 weeks before the meeting of the probes with the planet Mars, are decisive for the space apparatus to go into orbit as an artificial satellite of Mars.

[Unidentified correspondent] Yefrom Lazarevich, someone has said that to get onto a Mars orbit is almost as a complex task as hitting a kopeck coin with a bullet from a range of several km. I think there has been such a comparison.

[Akim] Indeed, in the course of this flight there are two serious navigational problems. Solving them depends on the carrying out of the great scientific program—the close approach of the apparatus to Phobos, a satellite of Mars. The first navigational task is to ensure that the space apparatus goes into an orbit around Mars at an altitude of 500 km. This is a difficult task, and a big team of scientists and engineers will be working on this during the 200-day flight.

But no less important, and I would say even more difficult, is the second task: the organization of a close encounter of the space apparatus and Mars' natural satellite Phobos. The reason is that today, according to measurement data from earth, we know Phobos' movements with an accuracy of 200 km, and we need to know the position with an accuracy of 2 to 3 km. In order to solve this weighty task, it is necessary during the course of the space apparatus' flight, after it has been placed in orbit around Mars, to ensure television measurement of the distance from the space apparatus to Phobos. These navigational measures will be carried out on board the space apparatus, be sent to earth, and the earth-based service will ascertain the movements of the space apparatus and of Phobos. It will also work out the necessary operations for this closer encounter.

[Correspondent] At that time, the distance between Mars and earth will be (?180 million km)....

[Akim interrupts] Yes, at that time, the distance will be 180 million km. The time for the radio signal to travel from earth to Mars will be (? about) 20 minutes each way. This is a unique task. To solve it, all data on Phobos' movements from earth-based observations since the end of the last century to the present, and all television measurements from the space apparatus after it enters a Mars orbit, will be used. [end recording]

Cosmonaut on Cooperation With U.S. Committee

LD261737 Moscow TASS in English 1624 GMT 26 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 26 TASS—The manned missions to Mars and interplanetary travels of the future call for concerted efforts by the scentists and specialists of different countries, Soviet Cosmonaut Oleg Makarov said in a TASS interview.

He has just returned from Washington where together with fellow cosmonaut Alexey Leonov he attended a session of the executive committee of the International Space Explorers' Association formed in October 1985.

The association's Soviet committee was founded earlier this month and Makarov has been elected its chairman. The United States as well as has a national space explorers' committee of its own.

Commenting on the Soviet committee's program of work, Makarov said: "It is connected in many ways with the universal, philosophical aspects of the space activities of the entire world community.

"The entry by man in another habitat means not only new technology, but also new, planetary thinking. This is why the common, collective opinion of spacefarers is so important.

"Yuriy Gagarin, the first man to see the colors and size of this planet from orbit and to stress its fragility and tenderness, has thus made the first contribution to the philosophical, moral code of our profession."

"Space," Makarov continued, "should become a place where people will be able to live and work, using such unique properties of that medium as zero gravity and thorough vacuum for scientific experiments and studies in the interest of exploring the natural resources and protecting the environment of earth, for the benefit of all mankind."

Among other things, the Soviet committee this year will share in arranging lecture tours of Soviet cities by U.S. astronauts and of American cities by Soviet spacemen. The Soviet and U.S. committees of the Space Explorers' Association are going also to publish a unique album featuring earth and space as seen by the pilots of spaceships.

All Nuclear Plants Inspected for Safety

LD281005 Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Text] The Soviet Union has inspected all of its nuclear power plants. The purpose of the inspection was to analyse the ecological situation and to recommend measures to raise the security of the facilities. The work has produced concrete recommendations which rule out any possibility of reactors getting out of control even in the event of a personnel mistake, as was the case at the Chernobyl plant. All the similar stations now under construction will have protective shells over them, to raise the level of protection for the people and the environment. The shells are strong enough to withstand a fall on them of a supersonic jet plane.

Military

Correspondent Describes Gulf 'Combat Duty'

LD271331 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] For a number of months now, Navy warships have been rotating on combat duty protecting the Soviet tankers and other cargo vessels in the Persian Gulf.

This task is currently being discharged by the small antisubmarine vessel Komsomolets Gruzii, the minesweeper Turbinist, and auxiliary vessel BM-24.

A TASS correspondent contacted (Karlen), field political department commander of the group of Soviet warships in the Indian Ocean. He reported that the situation in the Gulf continues to remain tense and unpredictable. Convoying of the Soviet cargo vessels has to be carried out amid the ever-present threat of clashes with numerous vessels and of attacks from launches of indeterminate nationality. Wandering mines pose a particular threat. It is extremely difficult to spot them in the conditions of restricted visibility and among the waves, but the crews of the warships cope with this task honorably.

Here is the most recent fact: Watch duty officer of the minesweeper, Warrant Officer (Valentin Manchenko), discovered in time a mine that had slipped its mooring and was being carried by the currant toward the convoy under its protection. Seaman (Alimer Akumov) immediately shot the horned messenger of death with short bursts of automatic fire.

The crews of the warships continue to fulfill the motherland's tasks.